

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, the 10th March 1959.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall start with question No. 123.

Rattling of doors in Madras City.

* 123 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was rattling of doors in many buildings in the City of Madras on one or two occasions during the last two months;

(b) whether it is a fact that this rattling was due to the detonation of time-barred bombs;

(c) if so, the place where actually the detonation took place; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such shocks to buildings?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The Government have seen reports in the newspapers and received a few oral representations about the rattling of doors in many buildings in the City on some days in July and August 1958.

(b) & (c) Some of the important newspapers of Madras reported that this rattling of doors was due to the vibrations generated by the demolition of old bombs in the Satyavedu forest area about 30 to 35 miles from Madras City by the Indian Air Force Unit at Gummidipundi. The Government have ascertained from the Indian Air Force authorities at Madras that the Indian Air Force Unit at Gummidipundi had to demolish some of the 4,000 lb. bombs as these were considered highly dangerous to store due to exudation and climatic effects on the main fillings of these bombs.

(d) The Indian Air Force authorities have reported that there would not be any more demolition of such bombs in the Satyavedu forest. As such, the Government consider that no further action is necessary in the matter.

Regional Food Laboratories

* 124 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to start regional food laboratories in this State; and

(b) if so, the places where they are proposed to be located?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Coimbatore.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : For the efficient administration of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and considering the need for the analysis of food, will the Government consider the desirability of starting District Public Health Laboratories so that food samples may be tested at the district headquarters instead of being sent to Guindy?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : For the opening of district laboratories sanction has been given and they will be opened at six places—Vellore, Palayamkottai, Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Nagercoil and Tanjore.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : How far have the Government gone with regard to the starting of public health laboratories at the places mentioned by the Hon. Minister?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I find that a few of them are actually working now. As regards others, I have asked for the information which has not yet arrived.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What are the District Public Health Laboratories which are actually functioning now and what are the new ones which are proposed to be opened this year?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The proposal is to open two more laboratories—one at Cuddalore in South Arcot district and the other at Dindigul in Madurai district. Their functions are, examination of bacteriological, serological and clinical material received from hospitals, dispensaries, health units or any other public health organisation; examination of food samples under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and chemical and technological examination of samples of water and training of technical personnel of different categories.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : With reference to the answer of the Hon. Minister, will he kindly enlighten us on how far the proposal to start a Public Health Laboratory at Coimbatore has gone till now?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : There was some difficulty about getting a suitable building. Now it has been settled. The site has been fixed and the estimate for the scheme is Rs. 6.75 lakhs. I think the work can be taken up hereafter.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What has become of the proposal to take over the Food Laboratory at Coonoor under the State Government?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : It is not a Food Laboratory. The Nutrition Research Centre, I understand, is going to Hyderabad.

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DR. A. SREENIVASAN : What will be the qualifications of those people who will be in charge of these laboratories?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The qualifications necessary for testing all that I have stated just now. (Laughter).

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : A technician also knows how to test. Does it mean that the Hon. Minister thinks that technicians will be in charge of the laboratories, and not qualified doctors?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : We should ask questions.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Qualified doctors *plus* technicians who are trained for the purpose will be there.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What are the circumstances under which the Research Centre at Coonoor has gone to Hyderabad?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I do not know whether it is worth while to go into the circumstances. It has gone already and we need not probe further into the matter.

SRIJATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : May I know the number of qualified persons to be absorbed in these laboratories?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Madam, I want notice. (Laughter.)

Taxis

* 125 Q.—SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to have the roofs of all taxis plying in the City painted yellow and bodies black; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals of the Regional Transport Authority, Madras, are being examined.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : சில சமயங்களில் இந்த டாக்ஸிகளில் ஏறி இறங்கும் போது கையில் வைத்திருந்த சாமான்களை விட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். அந்த டாக்ஸியை மீண்டும் கண்டுபிடிப்பது கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே, அந்த டாக்ஸியில் பொருத்தப்பட்டிருக்கும் நம்பரை டிரைவர் பக்கத்திலும் சிறு எழுத்தில் எழுதுவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமா?

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not a supplementary question.

Smoking inside the buses

* 126 Q.—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any orders prohibiting smoking inside the buses plying in the Madras State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to enforce them?

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THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) & (b) There is no order or rule directly prohibiting smoking inside the buses plying in Madras State. However, under rule 225 (iii) of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, the driver or conductor may ask a passenger, who is found smoking in a bus, to alight from the vehicle. He may stop the vehicle till the passenger has alighted. Any passenger failing to comply with such a requirement may be forcibly removed by the conductor or the driver.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : ஐயா, செங்கற்பட்டு, வடஆற்காடு, தென் ஆற்காடு மாவட்டங்களில் ஓடுகிற பஸ்களில் இந்த மாதிரிப் புகை பிடிப்பது மிகவும் சாதாரணமாக இருக்கிறது. அந்தப் பஸ்களில் உள்ள கண்டக்டரும் டிரைவரும் அதைத் தடுப்பதில்லை. இது பல பேருக்குப் பாதகமாக இருக்கிறது. இதைச் சரிப்படுத்த அரசாங்கம் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்குமா ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : பஸ்ஸில் புகை பிடிப்பதை நேரடியாகத் தடை செய்ய எந்தவிதமான சட்டமும் இல்லை என்று சொன்னேன். அங்கு இருக்கக்கூடியவர்கள் அதை விரும்பவில்லையென்றால், கண்டக்டரிடத்தில் புகார் செய்தால், பஸ்ஸை நிறுத்தி, அவரை இறக்கிவிட்டுவிட்டுத் திரும்ப பஸ்ஸை விடுவார்.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : ஐயா, சில பஸ்களில் கண்டக்டர்களும் சேர்ந்து புகை பிடிக்கிறார்கள். அதைத் தடுக்க என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்படும் ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : கனம் அங்கத்தினர் சொல்லக் கூடிய குற்றச்சாட்டு நமது ராஜ்யத்தைப் பொறுத்த வரையில் இல்லை என்று சொல்ல முடியும். நல்ல விதமாக, தனிப்பட்டவர்கள் நடத்துகிற பஸ்களானாலும் சரி சர்க்கார் நடத்துகிற பஸ்களானாலும் சரி புகை பிடிக்கக் கூடிய வகையில் யாரும் இருக்கமாட்டார்கள்.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : ஸார், பஸ் கண்டக்டர் புகை பிடித்தால் அவரை இறக்கிவிடுவதற்குப் பிரயாணிகளுக்கு அதிகாரம் உண்டா ? (சிரிப்பு).

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : அந்தமாதிரி அதிகாரம் கிடையாது. ஆனால், அவர் இறங்கிவிட்டால் பஸ் அங்கேயே நிற்கும்.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, will the Government kindly bring in necessary rules to see that this habit of a passenger smoking at the risk of the other passengers is stopped

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : There is already a rule, Sir, and if there is any real complaint, it will be attended to by the conductor and the driver of the bus. There is no need to bring in a new rule.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : “புகை பிடிக்கக் கூடாது” என்று சில பஸ்களிலேதான் எழுதப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே, கண்டிப்பாக எல்லா பஸ்களிலும், “புகை பிடிக்கக் கூடாது” என்று எழுத அரசாங்கம் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவிப்பார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : எல்லா பஸ்களிலும் “புகை பிடிக்கக் கூடாது” என்ற வார்த்தைகளை எழுதிவிட்டால் மட்டும் போதும் என்று கனம் அங்கத்தினர் கருதினால், அதைக் கவனித்துச் செய்யலாம்.

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Scales of pay of Tamil Teachers

* 121 Q.—DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the scales of pay of Tamil Teachers working in Middle and High Schools under the Government and various other managements in the State; and

(b) the scales of pay or special allowance granted to Tamil teachers of Middle Schools working in High Schools temporarily?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) The scales of pay of Tamil Pandits in districts other than Kanyakumari are as follows :—

	<i>Under Government.</i>		<i>Under local body.</i>
Middle School Tamil Pandits.	45—3—60—2—90	..	45—2—85
High School Tamil Pandits.	85—5—125—10—175	..	75—5—145

Private managements adopt either the Government or the local body scale of pay.

The scales obtaining in Kanyakumari district are as follows :—

Pandits employed in Upper Primary Schools and High Schools teaching up to VIII standard Rs. 41—3—65—EB—3—80.

Pandits employed in High Schools for standards IX to XI—Rs. 55—5—75—7½—150.

(b) In districts other than Kanyakumari, Middle School Tamil Pandits are some times asked to handle High School forms in addition to their normal work in middle schools. They are then allowed a special pay of Rs. 10 per mensem provided their work in the high school classes is not less than 12 periods in a week.

DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : May I know whether the special allowance supposed to be granted under the answer to clause (b) has been in actual practice granted?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is my impression.

DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : May I know whether representations have not been made to Government that these special allowances to teachers in middle schools working in high schools have not been granted or have been refused to be granted by several managements despite the inspection reports?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am not aware of any such representations.

DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : Have representations been made to Government for the raising of the pay scales of the teachers serving in high schools and, if so, may I know at what stage the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : We are getting representations from everybody for higher scales of pay. Now, the hon. Member must be aware that the question of revising the pay scales has been referred to the Pay Commission.

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DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : I want to know whether these representations were considered by the Government or are being considered by the Government.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is what I have stated. All the representations in regard to pay scales would be considered by the Pay Commission which has been appointed.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware of the fact that the allowance of Rs. 10 is not granted to mere oriental title-holders who were appointed after 1st January 1948 even though they handle higher forms for 12 periods?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I want notice, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government kindly consider paying this allowance to them when they are considered eligible to do work in the higher forms?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a question. It is only a suggestion.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : அரசாங்க உயர்தரப் பள்ளிக் கூடங்களில் வேலை செய்கின்ற முதல்தர தமிழாசிரியர்களுக்கும், பி. டி. ஆசிரியர்களுக்கும் ஒரேவிதமான சம்பளம் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது என்பது உண்மையா? அதிலே பி. டி. ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு மூன்று (இன்க்ரிமென்ட்கள்) சம்பள உயர்வு கொடுத்து நூறு ரூபாய் சம்பளமாகக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால், தமிழ் வித்துவான்களுக்கு என்பதைத்து ரூபாய்தான் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் என்பதும் உண்மையா? அப்படியானால், இந்த பேதத்தை அரசாங்கம் நிவர்த்தி செய்யுமா?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : இவைகளை யெல்லாம் சம்பளக் கமிஷன்தான் சிபார்சு செய்யவேண்டும்.

DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : Will the Government consider the desirability of bringing the pay scales of the teachers in Kanyakumari district on a par with those of the teachers in other districts?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Yes, Sir, that is under the active consideration of the Government.

SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER : The post of Tamil Pandits is the creation of the old regime. Now we are attempting to reorganize education on a sounder basis. In the reorganization of education, will the post of Tamil pandits be abolished and the Tamil teachers absorbed in the general cadre and the post of English pandits created in their place?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It would mean that they should have other general qualifications also. As a matter of fact, when we get graduates who have taken Tamil as their subject in B.A., they are treated like others and they are permitted to take other subjects also which they might have taken in the college course.

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Hindi Pandits

* 122 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether persons who have passed the Vidwan Examination of the Madras University in Hindi are considered qualified to be Hindi Pandits in recognized schools; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : As there are cases of the District Board teachers being sent out for want of training, will the Government kindly send a circular to the local bodies to see that they are not sent out till they are at least trained?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The question is whether persons who have passed the Vidwan Examination of the Madras University in Hindi are considered qualified to be Hindi pandits in recognised schools and in my answer I have said 'yes'. If that is not recognised anywhere, it may be brought to the notice of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1959-60—cont.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will now continue the general discussion on the Budget for the year 1959-60. The Hon. the Home Minister will now speak.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have sought your permission to intervene in this debate for a few minutes in order that I may explain the position with reference to certain questions dealt with by hon. Members. I would like particularly to deal with the question relating to food prices. The prevalence of high prices of foodgrains is indeed a matter for worry for every one of us, whether he is a Member of the Government or a Member of the House, and more particularly that is a matter for worry to members of the general public. Sir, the prices have been soaring high and there has been fluctuation in the prices of foodgrains for some time. As has been pointed out by the hon. Member Sri P. T. Rajan, perhaps this food trouble is a legacy of the War. Ever since the last War, we have been troubled with the question of high prices and sometimes scarcity of food. Before the War, there were reserve stocks which were prudently built up year after year. But during the War production was seriously affected by the continuous failure of monsoons

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and there was scarcity also. Therefore, all the reserve stocks had been eaten up year after year. Then just after the War, we were faced with no reserve stocks and less production and not only that; year after year our requirements of food also were going up. It has been estimated that so far as this State is concerned, for the additional population over each year, we require as much as 1,38,000 tons of rice. That is, for the increase in population during the year we require 1,38,000 tons of rice which is in addition to what we required during the previous year for the previous year's population. I do not know how far my Hon. Colleague, the Minister for Revenue, would succeed in controlling birth rates. But still I am worried with this additional need year after year to the extent of 1,38,000 tons of rice for feeding the extra population over the previous year.

Of course, Sir, we have increased production of paddy and also millets. People have been taking more of rice. People who were eating millets have taken to rice. I do not grudge it. We are trying to cope with the demand and the production has been going up. Of course, we have been lucky in having a series of fairly good monsoons. More than that, I must pay here my tribute for the excellent response of the ryots (hear, hear) who have come forward to adopt improved methods of agriculture and successfully stepped up production. Of course, I don't say this in any sense of complacency over the matter. We have to step up production still further. We have to meet not only the needs and demands of the increased population but also we have to be prepared to meet a situation where there is a failure of monsoon. Therefore, we are taking every step to see that the production is still further increased, particularly that of foodgrains.

3-50 p.m. Moreover, that is the only way to improve the economic condition of the large bulk of agriculturists in this State.

Sir, although I may claim that we have been producing as much as is necessary to meet the food requirements of the State, still the prices have been continuing to soar high. That is the problem that we have to face. Regarding this question of food prices, it is not merely a question of law of supply and demand. Adequate rice is there. In spite of less import from the Andhra Pradesh during this year and during the last year into the Madras State and in spite of the export of not less than two lakh tons of rice to Kerala from the Madras State, there has been no scarcity. To-day, I have been enquiring district after district and there is no complaint of any scarcity of foodgrains anywhere but still the prices have been soaring high. Of course, the Government were quite anxious to avoid any kind of control over production or prices. I know, Sir, how not only hon. Members of this House but also the general public hailed with great joy the decision to remove all controls on food. Therefore, I was expressing the hope in this House that we could wait till the next harvest and that when the harvest which was expected to be a bumper one came, prices of

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foodgrains were bound to fall at least to a certain extent. But we were disappointed. There was no trend of the prices going down, although a few years ago there was a downward trend which caused worry to agriculturists and also to hon. Members of this House. The Government had to step in then and arrange for the export of some rice in order to arrest the downward trend in prices. But now, Sir, for some time past prices have been high and sometimes there has been a little fall but there has been only a fluctuation. Therefore, the Government had seriously to consider whether they should not take some steps. Of course, that would mean some kind of control and the Government found that it was unavoidable in the general interest of the people. So, they took the step of controlling the prices, fixing the maximum ceiling prices of foodgrains. Of course, Sir, the Government have also committed themselves to the policy of price support in the event of the prices falling below the economic level, in order to protect the producer from any possible loss and also to encourage him to pursue his agricultural operations. Hon. Members will agree that this Government should rightly commit themselves to a policy of price support in the event of the prices falling below the economic level. So, it is but right that the Government should also take steps to fix the maximum ceiling on the prices when they go higher and higher. It is under these circumstances that the Government have issued the order of price control.

Then, in order to effectively enforce this order of price control—that is the main objective behind the Government decision—the Government have decided to procure in this State two lakh tons of rice not from the producers but from the merchants, wholesalers and millers. Sir, it has been estimated that the marketable surplus in this State would come to about ten lakh tons of rice. Therefore, the Government decided to procure one-fifth of that, viz., two lakh tons of rice. The idea behind this procurement is that we should build up a buffer stock for meeting any contingency in future.

Then, Sir, we have this idea that in case the prices still remain high and if there is need to open fair price shops, we might use these stocks of two lakh tons of rice which we would be building up by procurement. If the price control is effectively enforced—I do hope that it will be done—I do not think there will be any need for any fair price shop at all, especially when the maximum price has been fixed as a measure of general price control. Accordingly, even in respect of retail transactions prices should be correspondingly reduced and there would not be any need for fair price shops at all. In any event, the Government do propose to purchase these two lakh tons of rice and build it up as a buffer stock.

But, Sir, this kind of price control cannot be effected by one State alone. Hon. Members are aware that the Southern States, viz., Madras, Andhra and Kerala, have been constituted into a Southern Food Zone. Therefore, this Government have been

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insisting from the very beginning on the Government of India that whatever price control is to be had, it should be had uniformly in all the States comprising the zone and that has been agreed to not only by the Centre but also by the States. Sir, this Price Control Order was promulgated in this State on the 2nd February. We have also been insisting that the prices in the various States comprising the Southern Zone should relate to each other and that also has been agreed to. Accordingly, the price control notification has been issued in three States, viz., Madras, Andhra and Mysore. But so far the Kerala Government have not issued a notification and the Central Government also have not issued a notification in respect of the Kerala State. That is one handicap which we have to face. That is why in spite of our order of price control, merchants from Kerala came to Tanjore and other places and offered higher prices and our control order was sought to be made ineffective. When there is some offer, it is but natural for the producers to avail themselves of that offer. Therefore, we had reports that there was a large movement of not only rice but also paddy. This I could not understand. No doubt, I could afford to permit the transport of rice to Kerala even to the extent of two lakh tons of rice. I have made an offer to the Kerala Government that only if merchants—sometimes merchants resort to speculation and that complicates matters—would not step in and enter into transactions, this Government themselves could supply not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakh tons every year to the Kerala Government from out of our own production. But, Sir, now there is a very rapid movement of not only rice but also paddy. That I could not understand because there are not many mills in Kerala which could mill such a large quantity of paddy as was reported to be moving. We could not have any idea as to the quantity of paddy that had been moving. If the rice has been imported from our State, then we could have taken account of the stock. But it was paddy and it was reported that producers sold it straightaway and that it was put in lorries and transported to Kerala. We put it to the Government of India that this movement of paddy must be banned. The Government of India have agreed and accordingly issued that ban order. It would be in force for six months to start with. Under that ban order there cannot be any movement of paddy from Madras to Kerala except on permits. Therefore, this paddy movement has been arrested, but still, so long as there is no price control in Kerala, we will have to face difficulties.

I had a report yesterday—I do not know how far it is true and I cannot vouch for its accuracy—from some one in Tanjore that some Kerala merchants were proposing to start small rice mills there, so that they could mill the paddy and transport it as rice. All this arises because there is no price control in Kerala and it is the merchants that seek to take advantage of this situation and create complications. Of course, we have been contacting the Kerala Government and the Central Government also and we are assured that the Price Control Order would be notified very soon—I do not know how soon it will be.

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Then, Sir, I have to face another difficulty. So far as the Andhra State is concerned, it does not look as if the price control is effectively enforced there. People in Madras City are accustomed to Nellore rice. Now merchants in Madras complain that they are not able to get Nellore rice at the control price and that they could not pay higher prices for that. Yesterday, I referred to a representation I received from the President of the Planters' Association of Madras or South India. They say that they cannot get rice at controlled price within the Madras State for supply to their workers, but that they can purchase rice in Kerala at higher prices and have asked whether we could permit the purchase at higher prices. How can we permit that? I am looking into it. I just pointed this out to explain the situation and how complications arose. I should infer that because the Andhra merchants do not part with their Nellore rice which they had been supplying to us, the price control is not effectively enforced there. Therefore, Sir, now we see that this Southern Food Zone arrangement has not been working satisfactorily. I must say it has proved a failure, although I must point out and admit that it is not an absolute failure. There is some good from out of this Southern Zone arrangement also. But for this Southern Zone arrangement, there would have been a large movement of paddy and rice, rice at least even if we could ban movement of paddy, from out of its own zone to other States. For, there is deficit there. Wheat crop has been a complete failure. Wheat situation is much worse and I am told that people who are accustomed to wheat would rather take rice and pay any price for it. Therefore, this Zone arrangement has no doubt done this good, namely, that it has prevented movement of foodgrains in the Southern Zone from out of this zone. But anyhow, if there is no co-ordination, if there is no uniformity in the action to be taken and if we are not able effectively to enforce price control, then it is time that we seriously think how best we could revise this Southern Zone arrangement.

Sir, in this context, the National Development Council of India met some time back and they reviewed the position. Particularly they were worried about the high prices and they felt that for the successful implementation of the Plan, we had to put down effectively the prices of foodgrains. So, they thought, rightly thought I should say now from the experience which I have had so far, that State Trading was the only effective solution to this problem of prices. Sir, I have no doubt, after the experience we have had, that the only solution that should help us to meet the situation is State Trading. I have had occasion to discuss this with the Food Ministers and the Chief Ministers of other States in the Southern Zone. They too agree that State Trading is the best arrangement and that scheme has to be taken up as early as possible. This Government's comments were called for by the Centre about the outline of the State Trading Scheme that had been prepared and this Government have offered their comments.

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We have suggested that State Trading would be the only solution and that under such State Trading, there should be control not only of wholesale prices but also of retail prices.

Sir, I refer to this State Trading as the only solution that appears to us to help us to meet the situation because there has been some opposition to this idea of State Trading, even to the question of procurement and the proposal to have this control. There are certain vested interests who are opposed to it. Merchants have genuine fears and I do not question them. They feel that their interest would be affected. They feel that this is unwarranted interference with the normal trade channel. But, Sir, we have to adopt this course in order to meet the situation in the general interests of the people concerned.

Sir, it is said that the prices are high because we have not produced more. It is also pointed out by some people that the prices are high because we are permitting transport of rice, a considerable quantity of rice, to Kerala. I would like to point out to such critics that Andhra has a surplus of not less than 5 lakhs of tons but that still the prices are higher than what they are today in Madras. Therefore, Sir, that is not a correct argument. Of course, we are interested in stepping up food production. We do believe that if we step up food production considerably, it should certainly contribute to some extent to checking rise in prices. But that alone would not help us to reduce the prices. There are other trends which have to be taken note of. We now have no doubt that some kind of control like State Trading is absolutely necessary in order that we may effectively control the prices.

Sir, the producers, of course, do not like the fixing of maximum ceiling for prices. They would certainly like to have more; they have been getting more. They point out that the cost of agricultural operations is high. But we must know that food is the fundamental thing. It is mainly on account of high prices of foodgrains that the cost of living has been steadily going up, and that would affect the agriculturists also. They must note this. It affects the agriculturists also apart from the other people. Therefore, they should understand that it is in the general interests of the country and also in their own interest that we have to take effective steps to control prices.

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But the price control notification has not been issued in Kerala and it is reported to us by some merchants that the producers do expect that they will be able to sell the produce at a higher price and that, therefore, they would not part with their stocks to the merchants. On the other hand, the producers complain to us in a different way. The other day I was in Tirunelveli. When I was in Kanyakumari, the merchants complained to me like this. When I was in Tirunelveli, the producers came and complained to me that the merchants demanded a very large margin and said, 'they would take our stocks at Rs. 3 less than the maximum price.'

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Therefore, what shall we do? ' Therefore, if producers find any difficulty in selling their stocks to the merchants, we have provided—and I have told this to them—that the producers could sell their stocks directly to our agencies through the Grain Purchasing Officers. Then, if the producers would not part with their stocks expecting higher prices at some time or other and if the merchants are starved, we have provided for requisitioning such stocks. We do propose to enforce that order and we have enforced that order in one or two places. We have powers to requisition stocks which are hoarded. Therefore, we have provided that in such cases the stocks even with the producers could be requisitioned. The marketable stock could be requisitioned and handed over to the merchants. Of course, under the Procurement Order, 50 per cent of it will be taken over by Government agencies. Even about the other 50 per cent, when we take steps to procure the 50 per cent from the producers at the maximum prices by requisitioning, we have taken care to see that those merchants who would have the other 50 per cent sell it at controlled prices. That is the position so far as the price control question is concerned. Now, there has been a rapid, large movement of paddy to Kerala. I am not worried about it because there is still sufficient stock in the State. About procurement I would like to give this information to all the Members. We have not procured much and that is commented upon by some people now and then. The latest figure today about our procurement is only 12,800 tons. It is not much. But I have been repeatedly pointing out that we are not very particular about procuring so much. Our target is two lakhs of tons to be procured during the course of the year and we do hope to procure it. But we have recourse to this in order to enforce effectively the Price Control Order. I do hope that an early decision would be taken on State Trading and that a very sound scheme would be adumbrated and accepted not only by one State but by the entire country, at any rate, by the Southern States.

There was some reference to the problem of land ceiling. I am glad to see that the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has now practically conceded this principle of ceiling.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : No. (Laughter).

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : But I was very happy to read a report of his speech that he agreed to the principle but that the details of the ceiling scheme should be worked out by the States concerned according to the circumstances in the State. There is no uniform, detailed scheme in all the States. But the principle of ceiling has to be accepted. After all, land is a gift of nature like water or air. Of course, man works on the land. But the land is not like a house. A house is constructed by a man by his own effort. Land is a gift of nature. It is not made by man but the man works on it.

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DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Not cultivable land.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Land is there not only for the holders of the land, not only for the cultivators of the land but also for the entire population. It has to feed the entire population, not only population of men but also of animals. Our animals also have to be fed on this land and the land available is very limited. Therefore it is that we come forward to control the prices of food which is produced by cultivators by hard labour and by paying all their attention to cultivation. We step in or interfere in order to control the prices. In the same way, we say that if one person has a large holding, it is not in the general interest that he should have such a large holding. Of course, there have been very good farmers. I do admit it and I do pay my tribute to very enterprising farmers who hold large holdings and who do large cultivation but they are a few. Generally, you cannot expect large holders of land to devote all their attention to every inch of their land if it is a large holding. This is not a new idea which I present in order to support the Government's policy of ceiling. The great poet Kamban describes the rule of Dasaratha. He gives an instance. He indulges in a simile. He compares the keen interest with which Dasaratha protected the people of Ayodhya to the keen interest which a holder of the land evinces in the protection and cultivation of his own land. Hon. Members are aware that Kamban was a great devotee not only of Sri Rama but also of his patron, Sadayappan, who was himself a big landholder. He did not miss any opportunity to bring in Sadayappan into his verses. When Kamban lived, Sadayappan also lived. But still his adoration for his patron was so much that when he described the Pattabhishekam of Sri Rama, he said that Sadayappan gave the Crown to Vasishta and that Vasishta crowned Sri Rama with it. That was the kind of devotion he had for Sadayappan. But when he seeks to compare the rule of Dasaratha to the cultivation by a holder of the land, he has given up Sadayappan. He says, 'Just as a small holder of land takes care to cultivate and protect his own small piece of land, so also Dasaratha took so much interest to protect his own people.' So, this is not a new idea.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, may I interrupt the Hon. the Home Minister? Where are those lands about which he was mentioning? (Laughter).

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : They were in Tanjore district. Kamban describes the lands in the Tanjore district and not in Ayodhya. Therefore, if we are on a programme of land ceiling and if we propose to bring forward legislation very soon in this House to prescribe ceiling on land holding, it is with a view to step up production. We are quite firm that we should not take any risk in the matter of stepping up production. We have recourse to this step and we shall have recourse to it with a view to step up production further. Therefore it is that we take care to see

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that it is not merely a question of taking away the surplus land from the large holders and distributing them to A, B, C, D and E. There is no use of merely distributing the surplus land. We have ourselves had experience of it. In the Salem district there were about 30,000 acres of waste land in Attur. We took steps to see that all that land was parcelled out and we distributed it to about 6,000 landless people at the rate of five acres each. It was done only three years back, but they have not been able to cultivate the land. Therefore, a small holder has interest but he must have the where-withal. It is in this context that co-operative farming is prescribed. Of course, there has been a lot of misconception, misunderstanding and misinterpretation of this idea of co-operative farming. There have been a lot of prejudices also about this. It is not mere collective farming. Those who have prejudices and perhaps very correct prejudices against collective farming mistake this to be collective farming. Of course, I shall bring forward a Bill about Gramdan and moratorium. In cases where the entire village is given as Gramdan, there is no other way than to have collective farming. So far as I see, that is the only way to deal with the land that has been donated by the entire people of a village. Otherwise, we do not mean any kind of collective farming. This is joint farming which should help small holders to have all the necessary facilities (which they cannot have individually) in order that they may cultivate better, increase production and improve their standard of living. That is the idea behind this joint farming. I would like to point out what I have noticed with reference to the benefit that such joint farming could confer on the poor cultivators. In the Tanjore district, in the Tirunelveli district, and in certain other districts, the maths and the devasthanams have got large holdings of land. So far as the devasthanams are concerned, these holdings used to be leased out to people. It was rightly insisted all along that these devasthanams should lease out by public auction 100 acres or 150 acres or 200 acres. Some big man takes the lands on auction. It is normally leased out by auction so that there may not be any complaint of discrimination or abuse or corruption. If it is by public auction that lands should be leased, some big man takes the lands and then that big man sub-leases it. Under the Fair Rent Act and the Prevention of Eviction Act, even such a sub-tenant is a tenant for this purpose, and that tenant is entitled to sixty per cent of the produce under the Fair Rent Act. What remains is only 40 per cent. Now the middleman must take something. Therefore, the temples or other charitable institutions or educational institutions which also have large holdings of land cannot get even this 40 per cent. Under the Fair Rent Act, the income to these charitable institutions is bound to become less. We cannot make a distinction in fairness, whether it is the land of a charitable institution or a private land. Fairness is fairness. There cannot be two kinds of fairness. The tenants will get 60 per cent. The charitable institutions must get at least this 40 per cent, without any reduction. If there is a middleman, then the institutions cannot get this 40 per cent. If I ask the

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devasthanams to lease it out separately to each tenant, they find it difficult to enforce the tenancy rules. Apart from this, the small tenants will not be able to produce sufficiently. Now, Sir, the people do appreciate the position, and tenants are coming forward. The devasthanam also accepts the position. Joint farming co-operative societies of tenants, if formed, will work successfully. There is a very good atmosphere for this. If joint farming co-operative societies of cultivating tenants can apply for 100 or 200 acres, and if the devasthanam leases out lands to the societies (exclusively of cultivators), the devasthanam will get 40 per cent. It is bound to get even something more, because of the additional facilities that these societies will have. They are bound to increase production, and the tenants will get the other 60 per cent. This position, the tenants do realise and the charitable institutions also do realise. I am glad to give this information to this Hon. House that there is now a very fine atmosphere in the country. There is great appreciation of the benefits that could be got from these joint farming co-operative societies. I do hope I could present to the country at least 20 very successfully working joint farming co-operative societies and show them as models to others. This is the idea behind joint farming societies. There is nothing else. Therefore, Sir, hon. Members need not have any apprehensions about our proposals, our schemes and our policies, whether they relate to land ceiling or co-operative farming. Thank you, Sir.

* **SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER** : On a point of information Sir. இப்பொழுது தஞ்சையிலிருந்து மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு நெல் கொண்டு போகக்கூடாது என்று தடை இருக்கிறது. தஞ்சையிலிருந்துதான் முன்பு கோவைக்குப் பெரும்பாலும் நெல் கொண்டுபோய்க்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அது தடைப்பட்டுவிட்டதன் காரணமாக அங்கே நெல், அரிசிக்குக் குறைவு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைத் தவிர்க்க மீண்டும் தஞ்சையிலிருந்து நெல் கொண்டுபோக ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கும் தடையை நீக்குவார்களா?

* **THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM** : தஞ்சையிலிருந்து நெல் கொண்டுபோக அடியோடு தடை போடவில்லை. “பெர்மிட்” வாங்கிக் கொண்டு நெல் கொண்டுபோகலாம். கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்களுக்கு ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். தஞ்சையிலிருந்து கொண்டுபோகப்படும் நெல் கோவையில் குத்தப்பட்டு 100-க்கு 75 பங்கு கோளாவிற்று அனுப்பப்பட்டு வந்தது. அதற்காகத்தான் கோவைக்குத் தஞ்சையிலிருந்து நெல்லைக் கொண்டுவந்தார்கள்.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the discussion of the Budget last year, I ventured to make a statement, and with your permission, I shall read it. I said, ‘Ever since I entered the Council on its reconstitution after the War, I have been waiting patiently year after year to see whether the Finance Minister of the day would introduce a Budget with no fresh taxes. I thought I might perhaps imitate the Crown Prosecutor who, on certain occasions, presented White Gloves to the Hon. Judge who was to try Sessions cases, when there were none to try and I too might have the fortune of handing similar White Gloves to the Hon. the Minister for Finance’, (hear, hear), in case

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a Budget was presented without additional taxes. I am very happy now to present White Gloves to the Finance Minister, and I request him to accept them as a token of appreciation, without any commitment on his part over future taxation measures (laughter) or additional taxation even this year. I may inform my hon. Friend Sri Purushotham (who referred to this) that I have been told that the conventions of the House do not permit of such a procedure. Therefore, I have very regretfully to exercise this privilege of merely reading out what I had intended to do.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I take it as fulfilled.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Thank you. Sir, the Finance Minister in presenting his Budget has stated that as against the original estimate of revenue surplus of Rs. 15 lakhs for the current year, the revised estimate for 1958-59 shows a revenue surplus of Rs. 2.65 lakhs. Sir, within the last twenty years, revenue has more than quadrupled. My hon. Friend Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar has already stated that year after year the surplus has been far more than anticipated. They could have a Budget estimate, which is controlled on the revenue side. But sometimes that is taken advantage of only for additional taxation. It seems somewhat strange that a better and more correct appreciation of the Budget should not have been possible. In the year 1938-39, just twenty years ago, the total revenue of the whole of the Madras Presidency as it was called then, which included parts of Ceded districts called Rayalaseema and the coastal Andhra districts as also South Kanara and Malabar, was Rs. 16.13 crores. The revenue in 1959-60 for the attenuated State of Madras is expected to be Rs. 73.08 crores. This is made up of many direct and indirect taxes and new sources of taxation added during these years. The agricultural income-tax, I remember, when introduced was expected to bring in a very small amount. Actually it has given Rs. 1.47 lakhs to the Finance Minister. The tax on vehicles is expected to yield Rs. 4.78 lakhs as against the Budget estimate of Rs. 4.50 lakhs in 1958-59 and the revised estimate of Rs. 4.77 lakhs. The general sales tax has very frequently been referred to in this House as the 'Kamadhenu' of the State. It was at one time expected (I remember the words of the Chief Minister of the day who introduced this ingenious tax, Rajaji) just to cover the amount that was expected as revenue from excise. He then said that when Prohibition was introduced, this particular tax also should be introduced. Sir, sales tax has been a veritable Kamadhenu even after the Madras State has been so attenuated. During the year 1959-60, while the Budget estimates do not show any particular figures—there is a big query in respect of these items—I have gathered that the amount is nearly Rs. 15 crores or so including sales tax on motor spirit, diesel oil, etc. The Hon. the Leader of the House will remember that when I raised this question of diesel oil, he thought that it was only an insignificant sum that was going to be collected from that source. While it is all to the good of the

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people—I do not deny them the privilege of having more revenue and after all, we are making so many demands—it seems to me that after all is said and done, the Opposition have not been far wrong when they suggested that the estimates of the Government under this head were very, very conservative.

So far as the Government are concerned, the Hon. the Minister for Finance has stated that the 'index of wholesale prices of foodgrains which stood at 512 in December 1957 had gone up to 569 in December 1958'. He has also stated that 'the upward trend has persisted over the past few years with consequent increase in the cost of living index'. He has added, 'This vicious spiral of wages and prices chasing each other is the bane of our present economy.' We have just now heard a very elaborate and detailed statement by the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture. Whatever may be the causes for this rise in prices, I do venture to think that there are other factors also which should have been taken into consideration, and not merely the excess population for which the poor Health Minister is blamed. There are other important factors for the rise in prices. So far as the farmers are concerned, this is a most pressing and urgent problem. Those of us who have some idea of administration—in whatever sphere it may be—are confronted with this fact that no one in the office, no one in any industrial concern, no one in the business circles, whatever may be the wages that he is getting, is satisfied. If only this Government had not taken the measures, with the idea of giving relief to their servants, of giving dearness allowance in the manner they had chosen to do, but instead had taken steps to supply their servants rations, I mean foodgrains at reasonable rates, then not only the prices of foodgrains would not have shot up as we find today, but the people concerned would also have been far more happy. I feel sure that that would have been a better method of relieving the distress of the low income groups and middle-class families than the giving of additional sums now and then which only went to increase the profits of middlemen and salesmen. However, let me make one statement here. Some of us have unfortunately long memories, because we have lived for a fairly long time. We have heard accounts of great famines and the famine of 1877. We also know of smaller famines. I come from a tract which is rather famous for famines—I mean the Ceded districts. We also know of the Bengal Famine. But never was there a time when the whole of India was treated as a famine area as we experienced during the last few years. Why has this come about? I venture to suggest that it is due to the vicious spiral also. There has been a good deal of speculation in most States. The responsibility of the State to look after the citizens of the State is not as well appreciated as it was in the olden days when the Central Government would not so readily take up the work of supplying foodgrains to the whole of India. Fancy somebody taking up the task of supplying foodgrains to the whole of Europe and trying to find out where there is deficiency and rushing up foodgrains to places where needed. Human nature being what

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it is, it has always been the case that those who produce do not wish to give the exact figures. I am sure that in spite of the contradictions, in many parts of our country, foodgrains have been stored for two or three years and that they are not easily available in the market-places.

In the meantime, we find feverish attempts being made to increase agricultural production. Every time a team goes out, whether it is a team of politicians or former politicians, I am always in dread as to what further changes they would recommend for being introduced in the agricultural sector. We had the team that went to Soviet Russia which said that there was excellent collective farming there. The team that went to Japan was all praise for the peculiar method of cultivation there and recommended that the Japanese method of cultivation alone was the best for our country and that it should be immediately adopted for the purpose of increasing agricultural production here. When the team that went to China returned, we were told of the *summum bonum* of the methods adopted by the farmers of China which were responsible for the increased production in that country. My Friend, the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition explained to us what the Chinese method of production meant. The facts given in respect of these have not been corroborated. I venture to think that the Indian farmer is not, after all, the sort of innocent fool that we think he is. He has got a fund of knowledge. If only he is given the necessary wherewithal, it is not necessary at this stage to experiment with all these new methods. Nobody thinks of changing horses in mid-stream and that is exactly what we have been directed to do by the Centre by giving all this additional information. I do hope that this State which has got a much better idea of farming and of cultivation than perhaps some of the other States would do well to see in what respects such information ought to be availed of or in what respects it should follow its own methods of doing things. I do not for a moment mean to suggest that improved methods of cultivation, fertilisers, tractors and things like them ought not to be utilised. We must take the local conditions into account. Without any reference to the local conditions, if we get persons to throw seeds over the soil here in the hope of producing more and more foodgrains as we see in some parts of the country, we will neither see the seed nor the farm producing any results. It seems to me that this question requires individual attention on the part of each State, individual co-operation with the farmers and the State Governments. In many respects, policies ought to be adopted which would suit the genius of the people of the different States concerned.

The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture has spoken a good deal on ceiling, village service co-operatives and co-operative farming. Sir, policies are being changed in the agricultural sector. I am not prepared to enter into any discussion on these points. Because, I feel that both of us are more or less writing on a clean slate. Whose writing will be better in the end is a matter for the future to decide.

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I know this, Sir. During the War and closely after the War, some sort of co-operative farming was suggested for our soldiers who had retired and a large amount of money was spent in the Wynaad taluk to give them land and to procure necessary facilities for agricultural farming. At the end of three years, after having spent something like Rs. 50 lakhs, it was felt that that scheme was a failure and had better be given up. I do not know if that experience will be repeated. But, I hope the Agriculture Minister will have a better and more rosy picture to give to us. But, I am asking the Government to remember that after all is said and done, our State has done far more than any other State in the whole of India. We have settled disputes between the tenants and the so-called landowners. The landowner has now taken the place of the tenant and the tenant has practically become the landowner. We may call it the 60 and 40 per cent proportion or any other proportion. That is the net result. The landowner has to pay all the taxes, give the fertilisers, give the bulls and provide all other facilities to the farmer, and also water, and then request the farmer to cultivate the land. I entirely agree that he deserves all those facilities, which he is getting. But, the position is that the landowner has to go and wait at the doors of the tiller of the soil and if the tiller says that 40 per cent of the landowner's share was only a particular quantity, he has to thank the tiller with a profound bow. But what is the matter we are aiming at? (Interruption by Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar) My hon. Friend has some experience but I have nothing because I do not own a single cent of land. But I have heard these things. I am asking you to realise what this particular land ceiling means. I have heard a great deal about land ceiling. As I understand the word 'ceiling' in its ordinary dictionary sense, you put a limit on the extent of land a particular person is to own—let it be 25 acres—and if he is having 100 or 150 acres, to this day I have not had a very definite, positive, authoritative statement as to what is to happen to his other 75 or 125 acres of land. So far as he is concerned, I know the land goes for collective farming but what is to happen to him? Is he going to get anything out of the 75 acres?

SRI P. T. RAJAN : Nothing.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Sir, when we discussed the Bill relating to the abolition of zamindaris . . .

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : They will get compensation.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Nobody has yet suggested compensation. My friend is suggesting this because he was not in this House when we were considering the Bill I referred to just now. A Bill was introduced which said that the total amount of revenue to be expected of a land should be taken as twelve times the yield for the year and when the question of compensation came up, it was stated : ' Well, 12 times the yield will be the compensation '. It was calculated by a nice process for which my good

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friend, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, a very, very intelligent Revenue Minister for whom I suggested an Honorary Doctorate degree from the University of Madras, was responsible. So, when it is a question of compensation, you know what it is. But even that has not been mentioned. I want to make out this fact because I have, as I said, no particular interest in this. Zamindars got their lands by processes which were not always appealable to certain classes of people. But in this case, the man who has secured the land secured it with all the money he had earned by the sweat of his labour. He did it in the hope that he would get a little return from it. These people did not go in for the land for the sake of playing with it. Land is indeed God's gift. So is water. Why not you sell water . . .

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Why not men?

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : It seems, this is a vital question. What is it that you will give to the landowners when you ask them to go away? The land that they have possessed, they acquired by virtue of a juridical process out of their own earnings. The landowner may be a lawyer; he may be a doctor; he may be anybody else. But he has spent his life's savings on the land. If you are going to transform yourselves to a different ideology, then I have no argument to advance. But I wish to tell you this. It is no use condemning those who raise objections to ceiling as conservative, selfish, retrograde and not in keeping with the spirit of the times, whatever the spirit be, because I thought, having done away with spirits, we had no spirit of that nature. (Laughter.) It is no good condemning them without giving them an opportunity to make themselves understood. There is one other thing which gives me some cause for anxiety. When people with an entirely different ideology assure of 100 per cent support for these reforms, I would request you to remember the old saying that when the Greeks offer gifts, beware it may be a Trojan Horse that may be conceived. I shall not pursue that thought much further.

I should like to state that I have very much appreciated the commendable efforts that have been made in the field of irrigation.

In regard to cattle development which is the wealth of the country, I am glad to note that cattlefarms are being started at different centres, at Chettinad, at Orathanad and others. One of the very useful methods by which the question of milk supply is being tackled is this. There are cattle colonisation schemes and I am very happy indeed to express my gratitude to the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture for having taken up and given effect to the suggestions of the Committee that was appointed some time ago in this regard. I was recently informed that the Government of India, about two or three years ago, were prepared to give a grant of two crores of rupees and wanted a thousand-acre plot to be handed over by the Government of Madras either wholly or in part. When this

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question came up, it seems to have been disposed of at the Secretariat level with a blunt answer that 1,000 acres of land were not available in this State. When on a later occasion the Minister came to know about it and wrote to the Government of India stating that the State would be prepared to provide the necessary land, the Government of India replied that the question had already been settled and that another State had been given the opportunity. I do not grudge that State. But my point is this. I would like the facts to be verified. I will apologise if I am wrong because this statement has been given to me by a responsible Member.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Is it for cattle farm?

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: For a cattle colonization scheme. All that I would say is this. I hope Hon. Ministers will not take me amiss. If you want your Secretariat to be kept in proper order, one fundamental thing you should do is this. You may listen to them on nineteen occasions but on the twentieth occasion, as one great administrator said, right or wrong, score your pen against the note and proceed to give even an irreconcilable or irrelevant answer and that will keep them on their mettle. That is the secret of success of administration.

Sir, yesterday, I presumed to request the Hon. the Minister for Health kindly to defer his reply till I had an opportunity to speak. Sir, I have very often abstained from referring to the Medical and the Health Departments for more reasons than one. I have always felt that it may not be quite appropriate for me to dwell on these subjects in great detail since I may be misunderstood. But now I think the time has come when I should place certain facts before the Hon. the Minister for Health. A great deal has been said about the fact that things have not progressed much in the health sector. I was surprised the other day when I read a report in the Press of a statement which is supposed to have been made by the Hon. the Minister for Health that although a sum of twenty lakhs of rupees was provided for water-supply, it was found that on account of the pipes not having been made available, the provision had to be surrendered. Well, if pipes are not available, there are many other ways in which water can be brought to villages. For villagers, even a cup of water is luxury. I refer to some of the villages in Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts.

There has been a great deal said about medical personnel that they are not available for the rural health centres. A great deal of criticism has been levelled against medical men. It was also stated that they should be compelled to go and serve in rural areas. I have been in touch naturally with the young men in the medical professions. What are the facts to-day? The total number of contradiction, that they are not less patriotic than members of other profession for the last fifty years and I can say, without any fear of graduates in the medical cadre is nearly 1,200. Formerly, there were

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less than 200 and against this number, there were twenty-four districts with District Surgeons and six or seven Civil Surgeons. To-day there are only twelve posts of District Medical Officers and no additions to the cadre of Civil Surgeons. The prospects for these 1,200 medical officers—Graduates in Medicine—can be imagined. Worse still, out of the total number of 1,200, nearly half are temporary. They have been temporary for the last five to six years. The average age of entrants to the medical profession is 30. Temporary service usually lasts, as I said, for six or seven years. The average age for confirmation is 36—37 and the earned period for pension is less than 20 years. On the magnificent salary that is allowed to them they earn only a third of that as pension. Taking it for granted that they go up to Rs. 400 which is the maximum for the large majority of Assistant Surgeons, one-third of that is only Rs. 133. These are facts which must be taken note of. As I said, what is the position of medical men? Are they the bits and straws of the intellectual world to-day and rushed to the medical profession because they have nothing better to do? Let me give an illustration. Selection within the last two years was made for the Medical, the Engineering, the Agricultural and the Veterinary Colleges, and the University of Madras had a common examination for all the subjects which were common to them. That is for Physics and Chemistry and Natural Science, the examinations were common for the Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences. Physics and Chemistry were common for the Engineering and the Medical Sciences. The results of such common examinations showed—these were examined by the Arts and Science teachers who did not know whether the students were medical men or engineering men or anything like that, and actually the students were trained in the arts and science colleges—that 91 per cent of those who had elected to join the medical profession had succeeded, 81 per cent of those who had elected to join the engineering profession had succeeded whereas for the other two the percentages were 52 and 48. Does this show, Sir, that those people who take to the medical profession are very much worse than those who join the Indian Administrative Services? But what is the prospect between the two? You may say, they have private practice. I have repeatedly said, 'Let their private practice go'. Then, Sir, there have been many reports within the last ten years. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister would care to go into those reports—and, unfortunately, I have figured in most of these committees. These reports would show conclusively that the present position of the Government Medical Service is something very deplorable. I have even ventured to send a big memorandum to the Hon. the Chief Minister with copies to the Hon. the Health Minister and the Hon. the Finance Minister hoping that if I propitiate all these three, something will happen through the 'Poojari'. So far nothing has happened.

4-50
p.m.

Now, Sir, let me state the position of the hospitals. I am glad, Sir, you are here because you will contradict me if I am wrong. I do not think I have ever seen hospitals in any other country so

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overcrowded. On the last occasion, I said that there were patients in between the beds, under the beds, over the beds and two on the bed. (Laughter.) The Hon. the Finance Minister who was present on that occasion said agreeing with me that steps would be taken to remedy this state of affairs. Steps are still awaited. I hope there may not be too many steps and too steep steps or steps with too much inclination to climb up. I venture to suggest also that when we are planning for additional bed-strength—I know the Government are planning—there must be a method in the plan. What is the maximum strength of the hospital staff for efficient administration, professionally and administratively? What is the strength that ought to be there in District Headquarters hospitals and in Taluk Headquarters hospitals? Sir, many of these useful suggestions are given in the book published years ago, called the 'Report of Health Survey and Development Committee', what is known as the Bore Committee Report. I think it would be well for us to go through some of these things. Haphazard development of hospitals and a large increase in the number of patients will never give satisfactory results. You have not got the personnel to attend to them. But the medical officers are blamed. The nurses are even more severely criticised. Do you know the volume of work they have? The Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour is there. I do not know whether the I.L.O. would take note of the doctors and nurses. But still I would like to bring it to their notice that it is not eight hours' work for them a day. Twelve hours is the least and the doctors sometimes work for 24 hours without the least respite. I have known surgeons operating on cases in the theatre from about 9-30 in the morning to 7-30 in the evening. In this connection, I would beg of the Hon. the Minister for Health to see that at least the operation theatres are air-conditioned. I said this even two years ago. The other day I enquired about it. I was told that the Electricity Department was still considering the project. What do they bother? The Medical Department is not the Electricity Department, nor are they going to get shocks if they do not proceed rapidly. Therefore, I would request the Hon. the Minister in charge of Electricity also to kindly attend to this.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I do not think there will be any difficulty with regard to the Electricity Department.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : I think no such proposal has gone to that department and is pending with them.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : These things need not go to the Electricity Department or the Electricity Board. I think a shock may be given to the whole of the Treasury Bench and probably that will save the situation. I am saying this because the patients also suffer, not merely the doctors. I do submit that the doctors suffer. But one of the most important things—I am sorry to have to refer to what may be called professional details—is

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the conservation of fluid substance. If a patient is perspiring on operation lasting for three to four hours, then that patient's chance of good recovery will be reduced by 33 per cent.

In this connection, Sir, I wish to refer to the position of the Isolation Hospital which is supposed to be managed by the Corporation of Madras. If there is a place which can be considered as near to the other place to which some wicked people are sent, I think the Isolation Hospital is a standing example of that place. (Laughter.) The only relieving feature of that hospital is the role of the Medical Officer Dr. Haddy who under the most depressing circumstances, with patients suffering from smallpox, cholera, typhoid and various other diseases, is struggling with knives that do not cut, needles that do not penetrate, and medicines that are not available. I beg to appeal to the Hon. Minister to take it over immediately, not to wait even for a resolution of the Corporation to be passed, and see that the hospital is remodelled and established at a fairly easy but safe distance from the City of Madras. Here I may congratulate the Hon. the Minister for Health on the excellent Isolation Hospital, I was in Madurai the other day. It has been built four miles away from the Municipality and it is being run by the Government. The Hon. the Minister for Local Administration is not here now. I have said that Corporations and Major Panchayats are not the bodies to be entrusted with this very responsible duty particularly of prevention of epidemic diseases because they may spread rapidly and then after the horses are stolen, the Government will spend lakhs of rupees on putting up temporary sheds, giving shelter to the contractors and things of that sort, which are of no value whatsoever. I hope, Sir, this suggestion will not be taken merely as a sort of idle remark but I am sure something will be done in respect of this matter.

Sir, I have also repeatedly said that a separate accident hospital or casualty hospital should be opened with an orthopaedic department in association with it, so far as the City of Madras and the bigger cities are concerned. You cannot crowd in a general hospital, where most serious operations are done, all the accident cases coming day in and day out, disturbing the patients in the ward and also interfering seriously with the work of the surgeons entrusted with the care of other patients.

Now, Sir, let me deal with another peculiar feature in certain hospitals. The other day we were given a large sheet of paper which contained particulars about the Lay Secretaries. I then referred to the fact that, in my opinion, some of their duties seemed to be so extraordinary that I was always wondering at the qualifications of these Lay Secretaries. Their pay scales are more or less the same as those of the Assistant Surgeons, that is, Rs. 200 to Rs. 400. Naturally, lower division clerks, upper division clerks and superintendents in the department must have their chances for promotion. I do not deny it. But still I am maintaining that the duties which

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are entrusted to them are not the duties for which they are qualified. This system of 'Lay Secretaries' was introduced when I was in service. I was Superintendent of the Maternity Hospital and Principal of the Medical College for a period of three years. The Lay Secretaries were supposed to look after the accounts and routine correspondence and nothing more. What do they do now? In one of the biggest hospitals, I saw the name board with the name of the Dean in bigger characters. Then there was the name of the Lay Secretary, so and so whoever it might be, in equally big letters. Then the names of other workmen in the hospital like the surgeons and physicians came in small letters because everybody who went there must see who the Lay Secretary was. It is not necessary to know the other things.

Sir, the Government should immediately see what are the conditions and rules with regard to the fixation of operation fees and other fees for the patients who get into the Special Ward. I should like to be assured whether it is left to the Lay Secretary to decide what they should pay. Formerly it depended upon the pay that one earned and it used to be based on the pay, Rs. 500, Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,500 and it was quite all right. I want to know whether such an arrangement exists now. I can assure you that if proper fees are charged according to the salaries of the patients, the General Hospital can be run without a large deficit. Of course, in these days we are on the one side abolishing castes and on the other side creating new castes. The Government of India employees are castes by themselves. The railway employees are a separate caste. So also the post and telegraph employees are a separate caste. They are all entitled to free admission into hospitals and free supply of medicine. It may be that the Government of India pay for these things, in which case I would not grumble about it except to say that this sort of treatment for a selected group of employees, be it of the Government of India or the Government of Madras, is not the way in which the Government should respond to their obligation to the general public. This tendency is increasing day by day. I am for Non-Gazetted Officers getting free treatment but I am also for others who are equally in an unfortunate position, and their case also should be considered by this Government. That may be a larger question that the Hon. the Minister for Health may have to tackle. But I do hope that he will kindly look into these things.

5 p.m. Sir, I had thought of mentioning other things but now I shall make a short reference to the Second Five-Year Plan. I should like to thank the Hon. the Minister for Finance for having given the excellent book which gives all the details of the Second Five-Year Plan. My only regret is that this book had not been referred to frequently by hon. Members who spoke in this House or in the discussions that apparently took place in the other House. This is an invaluable document which should be perused by everyone.

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Sir, under the Second Five-Year Plan, the Planning Commission has allocated an outlay of Rs. 152 crores for this State for the entire Plan period. It is gratifying to note that for the period ending 1959-60, a sum of Rs. 119.4 crores will be expended—that is, for the four years of the Second Plan—leaving a sum of about Rs. 33 crores to be spent in the last year of the Plan. That apparently looks like a very reasonable proposition . . .

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : In fact, it is only Rs. 24 crores left out.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : I am glad to know about it. But I may mention to the Hon. the Leader of the House some facts and let me hear what he has to say about those facts.

As I understand the details of the Plan, it must not include all minor things which could naturally have been included in the ordinary Budget. It should be something tangible and something which will stand out as a planned method of development either immediately or in the course of years.

But that apart, I was surprised to see in this book, that in regard to National Water-Supply and Sanitation Scheme which the Government of India had sponsored for the eradication of water-borne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, etc., by providing water-supply and sanitation facilities to villages with a population of not more than 5,000 it was stated—this is the important point—that five per cent contribution was collected from the forward communities of the beneficiaries and that no contribution was required from Harijans and backward communities.

Likewise, for rural water-supply schemes, it has been laid down that a minimum contribution by the beneficiaries of 25 per cent of the cost of works is insisted upon except in respect of works undertaken for the benefit of Harijans and poor and backward people. Now I ask in all conscience, on what authority and under what provision of the Constitution, this discrimination has been made. I venture to think that that is a discrimination. Suppose the so-called forward communities do not pay. Then the other communities have a right to have a grievance against them. So, the Government are creating friction in the villages between two communities. I do not know what is the explanation for this extraordinary provision. It certainly requires a good deal of thinking. This is not the way in which they are going to abolish castes. I can understand your giving concessions in other spheres but in regard to ordinary water-supply, is this what is expected? Sir, in the light of these facts, it is not surprising to note that the plan provision under rural water-supply has not been expended. While for the whole period of the Second Five-Year Plan, there is a provision of Rs. 314.96 lakhs under rural water-supply, the total plan expenditure for the four years is only Rs. 204 lakhs leaving an unspent balance of Rs. 110 lakhs which obviously

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cannot be spent in the last year as the Hon. the Leader of the House has stated that he has got only Rs. 24 crores. Obviously this cannot come into the picture.

Even in regard to other Health schemes, while there is a Plan provision of Rs. 939.98 lakhs, the total expenditure for the four years of the Plan is shown as Rs. 451.34 lakhs, leaving here again an amount of Rs. 488.54 lakhs, i.e., more than 50 per cent of the Plan allotment for expenditure in the final year of the Plan. I should like to know why this large amount is left unspent and who is responsible for this. Maybe we shall have to suggest that the Hon. the Minister for Health should for the rest of the period become the Hon. the Minister for Finance also so that these amounts may be made available to him.

Sir, it is well-known that communications in the State are most important both for the purposes of transport and for easy mobility of personnel from place to place. I find in the Second Five-Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 678 lakhs had been allotted for the State Road Programme but that for the four years, the total amount spent will be only Rs. 389 lakhs, leaving again a sum of nearly Rs. 300 lakhs for the final year of the Plan which cannot possibly be spent.

Sir, we are thinking of rural development and, therefore, let me state that this Government should stand firm in regard to the policy of road transport and that they should not hand it over to the Ministry in charge of Railways. As it is, the Railways have not tackled the problem of inefficiency, nepotism, corruption, delay and loss in transport, not to speak of the amount of expenditure involved in taking the goods to the railway station and receiving them at the other end. So, if road transport is handed over to the Railways, the poorest people who get into buses with their small bags, which practically go near their doorstep, will be very badly served.

5-10 p.m. Sir, so far as the social services are concerned, we have not been able to progress. It may be that we have been handicapped in several ways. But I should like to know why the proposal for establishment of a 500-bedded chronic diseases hospital in the City, which had been included, has since been dropped out of the scheme. We have been crying hoarse that the only way of relieving congestion and giving fair treatment to the patients suffering from chronic diseases is to have such a hospital. What the hon. Members would be surprised to note is that even after serious operations, cases operated on have to be sent out, as soon as the stitches are removed, because there is no room in the hospital. Of a patient a question was asked by the hon. Member Mr. Raza Khan—I am quoting Mr. Raza Khan because he will not fight with me (laughter)—and the answer was, 'Perhaps the medical officer should have been more discriminating'. This will not help. You should see how he discharges his duties in the wards which are always full. Nurses are there, but a patient is under the bed, on the bed and between the beds. (Laughter).

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Sir, for the improvement of hospitals and control of diseases, an amount of Rs. 404 lakhs has been provided in the Plan and the expenditure for the four years is Rs. 143 lakhs. Sir, I do not want to repeat these things too much. But to one thing I should like to refer and that is about leprosy which is a scourge. There is a provision of Rs. 18-15 lakhs for establishment of subsidiary centres, etc., and a sum of Rs. 5.40 lakhs is expected to be spent in the four years of the Plan. Let me state here that in the districts of Chingleput and South Arcot, in many villages, a survey by a team of medical students and lecturers revealed that almost 50 per cent of the people had potent leprosy. (An hon. Member: Fifteen?) No, it is fifty, five-zero. In Padappai and other villages—I am talking of those villages—it was found that 50 per cent of the people had leprosy and this was found after a bacteriological examination by trained personnel. What is worse is that you have started your Lignite Project in Neyveli, right in the heart of this leprosy-ridden area. I beg of the Hon. Minister to see that energetic steps are taken to put this scourge down and unless that is done, a whole conflagration will take place. The Member from Cuddalore is laughing, but I may tell him that this is no matter for laughing. Sir, even in regard to smallpox and cholera about which mention was made the other day, I am sorry to say that it is taken a little too lightly by the public health staff. That is my impression. If today with all the discoveries that have been made, smallpox should break out when it likes and subside when it thinks fit, it is a very sorry state of affairs. In our own homes, the saying goes "*Mariamamma Mummaram Thaniniu Irukku*", that is, the Goddess has come down gradually, She has declined. That is what is happening even with the Health Officers about the decline of smallpox. Nobody cares; the Corporation does not care. What is the result?

When I was attending the World Health Organisation at Miniapolis, nothing put me to more shame than the repeated comments about smallpox and cholera in India. The Soviet delegate came out and said that they were presenting India with 21 million doses of smallpox vaccine; the representative of Cuba—a small spot geographically and I do not know how many hon. Members are aware of it—comes and says that his country had presented two million doses of smallpox vaccine to India. Therefore, if we want this to be stamped out, the Government must sit on their Health authorities, mobilise the whole medical force in the City for voluntary work—I tell you they will come—inoculate the people and revaccinate them. There is a beautiful provision that once in six years revaccination should be done. But no steps seem to have been taken.

I think I have dealt with the Health problem at great length and shall now turn to something which is not too much of a disease. (Interruption). Since my non. Friend has referred to it, I shall say one word about it and that is about Family Planning.

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We have been inundated with literature on Family Planning. I congratulate the Hon. Minister and his colleagues on the effective manner in which they are propagating this. They are giving rewards to persons for this. Wonderful. Old people may feel a little bit dejected. But, Sir, have the Government considered the effect of this? Only within the last few weeks, four cases have come to my notice. Operations had been performed, two on men and two on women, both separately, and yet the results were not as were expected. (Interruption) You may say that such surgical failures are common. But please remember, it is not a surgical failure, it is not a case of that type. It is a case where the family gets completely disillusioned and various unfortunate criticisms are levelled against the persons concerned. That is the danger in that. For instance, a lady or a husband is sterilized and the lady later on becomes unfortunately pregnant. What is the position of that lady, so far as her family is concerned and so far as society is concerned? Therefore, I want to caution them that Family Planning is not merely a matter for economists and administrators. You have to choose the proper persons on whom some reliance could be placed and then start this. I am sorry to have to say this. I referred to it because Mr. Raza Khan wanted some enlightenment. (Laughter).

May I crave your permission just for a few more minutes, Sir? I am very glad indeed that small-scale industries have progressed as well as they should. I should like to congratulate the Hon. the Minister in charge of Industries on the significant success. It has already been suggested that these are the only methods of salvation of the rural population. But I have also one particular request to make. Do not imagine that the small-scale industries can be confined to the cottage industries only as is being done. Others have to be undertaken particularly because the Hon. the Minister in charge of Electricity is so generous as to supply electricity to villages in rapid succession every year, say, to a thousand or two thousand villages. That is one of the most important factors in cottage industries. And I want to make this suggestion that all these industries will prosper and continue to prosper only when you have brought them in touch with the major industries concerned; they cannot be isolated as cottage industries. In other words, these small-scale industries must be supplementing the requirements of the large-scale industries and I am one of those who feel strongly and who will not be very anxious to have large-scale industries in our cities and in our State producing a good deal of overcrowding, insanitation, tension, etc. I would, therefore, suggest the improvement of small-scale industries. Let all the big dams be in the North. Let us leave the dams. Let us have these minor irrigation works, these small-scale industries, and let them be improved upon by our very great and skilled artisans. Let us do all this and then we can see what we are.

One other suggestion to the Hon. Minister. I would request him to organise a small-scale industries show or exhibition every year under Government auspices, if I may emphasise that word,

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and invite some of the large-scale industrialists, pay them their travelling allowances, if you like and call for suggestions as to the methods by which these small-scale industries could be fitted in with the large-scale industries. I had an opportunity, Sir, to talk to a businessman and not being a businessman myself, I did not have much to say. There are a number of people who welcome this idea of their being associated with this endeavour. But actually, they do not know what was taking place. We take the foreign visitors to the Integral Coach Factory and all that. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister to arrange to show the foreign visitors industries, indigenous as well as foreign.

Sir, we have the great privilege of having as the Leader of the House a person who was a great labour leader before he entered into the portals of ministerial chamber. He is now in charge of Industry and Labour. He has, therefore, the unique opportunity of looking at labour problems from both the ends and I hope he has had enough time to know the difficulties of the management as well as the workers. I only appeal to him during his period and with all the knowledge that he has got from the International Labour Conferences to see to it that the tensions that are created in Labour, the demonstrations, the shoutings, the flag-hoistings and the various other unnecessary and provocative methods of demonstration perhaps quieten down and reasonable methods are adopted for the settlement of disputes. The Hon. Minister has been in New York and in American Cities. I was in Missee(?). There is one biggest departmental store, as it is called, there. I saw two people standing at either end with a banner. They just watched and did not open their mouths. The banner said, 'Please do not enter the shop till our demands are met.' I have no objection to such a method being adopted. But if you come to shout when a meeting is being held as it happened very recently in the University premises itself—I am sorry to say that; my Hon. Friend and you, Sir, very well know that—it seems to me that there must be some method by which, whoever be in charge, a certain decorum is observed. I shall not say more about it.

5-20
p.m.

One last word. We have been thinking of the First Five-Year Plan, Second Five-Year Plan and now the Third Five-Year Plan. But will the Government associate the Members of the Legislature before they evolve the Third Five-Year Plan? I am making that request because Ministers come and Ministers go even when the same Party is in power. To-day there are only two Ministers, if I remember aright—we are told—connected, whether intimately or remotely I do not say, with the drawing up of the Plan. Therefore it is I say that a Committee of the Legislature with such experts as you may gather should be acquainted with the proposals and should be given a reasonable chance of expressing their views. No doubt, I realise that no Government can be committed to a particular stand. Government is above all parties.

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SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : They have already requested the Members of the Legislature to co-operate with them.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : I beg of them now to co-operate with us because it must be a reciprocal co-operation.

May I end with this request? Let us not imagine that India will become great by the formulation of physical plans like the First Five-Year Plan, Second Five-Year Plan, Third Five-Year Plan and so on. My hon. Friend the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has referred to the human element. There must be moral plans like the First Moral Plan, Second Moral Plan and Third Moral Plan. We hear so much of corruption. We hear so much of dishonesty. We hear of so many unfortunate trends. It appears to me from my travels abroad that we are imitating everything bad of certain of the western countries and that we are forgetting our own practical concept of life. I hope, Sir, that this aspect will receive due consideration and that those who speak about moral values will not be dismissed or swept away as if they were interfering with the national growth.

Thank you, Sir, for your great indulgence shown to me.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Mr. Chairman, let me resume my broken speech of yesterday. (Laughter) I will first deal with the hospitals. I may give an idea of the number of hospitals and the bed-strength we are having now. There are 151 hospitals run by the Government and 47 by local bodies and 58 by private agencies. The total number is 256. The number of Government-subsidised dispensaries is 219, local body dispensaries 257 and private dispensaries 63. The bed-strength of Government hospitals is 14,136 and of non-Government hospitals 7,146. Now the increase of beds contemplated during the Plan period is 1,076 of which the Government have sanctioned an increase of 572 beds. No doubt, I concede that there is overcrowding in hospitals. Patients are lying on mats on the floor. They may be by the side of, or under, but never above the cot. (Laughter). There is a human aspect in this. Though there will be a little less attention, in the sense that as much attention as will be possible if there is the sanctioned strength alone, may not be paid, when a person comes for admission, the doctors themselves do not have the heart to turn him out saying that there is no vacancy. They see the misery of it and even though it may cause some inconvenience to the other fellow-patients and to the doctors and the nurses, still they have admitted more than the sanctioned strength. I appreciate that standpoint of the doctors and the authorities concerned. But the number of beds should be increased and proportionately the nursing staff also should be increased. Steps are being taken to increase progressively the beds and also the nursing staff, but it may not be on the scale that we desire. Still we are making all efforts increasing the bed-strength on a large scale means finance. As I

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to improve. We find difficulty in getting trained people. Again increasing the bed-strength on a large scale means finance. As I said yesterday, we are spending only 8 per cent of the total revenues but in other distant countries the expenditure goes up to 20 or even 22 per cent, I am told. But we are trying our best; I am trying to impress on the Finance Ministry the need to allot more money for this purpose because I believe that the money spent on this department is a very good investment which will yield good dividends. I hope I will succeed.

Then, in addition to the general amenities available for patients, we have introduced the Employees State Insurance Scheme. There is now provision in the Coimbatore district for 50,000 workers to take advantage of the scheme and have medical facility. There are five dispensaries working there; there is a panel of 48 doctors and there is a Central Medical Store also. In Madras 66,000 workers are benefited; there are 14 dispensaries and one mobile dispensary. In Madurai and Tuticorin 36,000 workers are benefited, and there are eight dispensaries. In Salem, Meiturb Dam, Udumalpet and Tiruppur, the scheme covers about 20,000 workers. In all about one lakh seventy thousand workers come under the scheme. That means that it gives a certain amount of relief to the other hospitals that we are having. That is a thing we should welcome. In addition to these dispensaries, I may also mention that there is scope for in-patient accommodation. There are 84 patients in Coimbatore and 70 beds are allotted in Perundurai Sanatorium and in Madras a proposal to have a separate hospital with 78 beds is under way.

Now, in dealing with hospitals, I will refer to the Operation Theatre. To begin with two air-conditioned theatres in the General Hospital were sanctioned. A few months ago, when I went there, the whole area was very busy. There was remodelling though not air-conditioning. They were re-conditioning and trying to adjust. I thought that was inworking order. But the trouble seems to be from the Electricity Department, but that gentleman absolves himself of all responsibility and says that the fault lies with the Health Department. Seeing the manner in which it was being done, I thought that there was no delay as regards the remodelling and that the trouble was about electricity alone. Anyway, I shall look into the matter. I think this summer it will begin to work.

As regards the Isolation Hospital, I am sorry that it should be in such a deplorable state. Surely something should be done about it. It must be improved. I shall immediately pay a visit to the hospital and then take all steps necessary.

As regards the Casualty Department, the General Hospital should be a hospital for uncommon diseases or diseases of a very serious nature. But now, as it is, it is crowded with all sorts of people and even out-patients. The other day I asked the Dean whether we could not completely take away the out-patient department and have it elsewhere, and so with the Casualty Department also, I shall pursue the matter and see what can be done in that direction also.

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As regards the Lay Secretary, no doubt, mention is made of his various duties but actually he performs only the ministerial duty, as far as I know.

5-30 P.m. As regards the operation fee, I think even now there is a rule by which people are required to pay a certain amount according to their income. I think this amount is worked out by the Resident Medical Officer and other officers. I do not think the Lay Secretary comes in here except in the preparation of the bill. Actually the professional part of it is done by the doctor or the Resident Medical Officer.

As regards the establishment of a chronic diseases hospital here, I say, Sir, that there was a provision of Rs. 20 lakhs for starting one such hospital under the plan. But the planners some time ago wanted to prune the provision in the Plan budget, and they thought that the chronic diseases hospital was the safest item that could be taken out. Therefore, they deleted that item. But I am happy to say that we are having a proposal to open a convalescent home on a 400-acre plot in the North Arcot district. Though it is primarily intended for the nearly cured and discharged people from the T.B. sanatoria, we can extend it and house other chronic disease patients also there. Already proposals are under way, and the Centre also has agreed to help us. I am confident that it will be pushed through. Other chronic disease patients than T.B. patients could be provided in that home in due course.

With regard to leprosy, Sir, no doubt the incidence is very great in the South Arcot, North Arcot, and Chingleput districts. But there is no danger to the Neyveli Project, because though leprosy is a very repulsive disease, it is not so contagious as others. It requires constant and close contact to infect. It affects especially children. It is not such a contagious disease as plague. But I admit that this disease should be stamped out from our country. I understand that in Ceylon it has been almost stamped out or that it is there only to a negligible extent. The Central Government are agreed, and the State Government are now trying to take steps to combat this disease. Proper steps are being taken to deal with this disease. I am anxious that at least one disease should be eradicated from our country, so that we can have a feather in our cap. I have chosen to combat this disease because its incidence is very small, and we can easily stamp it out. But I cannot deal with tuberculosis in the same way. Because there is a very large number of patients suffering from this disease, and it will take a long time to fight this disease. But leprosy can be stamped out, and the treatment is also cheap.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : இந்தக் குஷ்டரோக வியாதி இந்தியாவிலேயே தென் ஆற்காட்டில்தான் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது, என்று சொல்கிறார்களோ, அது உண்மையா ?

*THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : அதைக் கேட்டு நீங்கள் என்ன பெருமைப்படப் போகிறீர்களோ ? தென் ஆற்காட்டில்தான் அதிகம்.

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SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : அப்படியிருந்தால், அதைப் போக்குவதற்கு சூடுதல் நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

***THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :** நம் ராஜ்யத்தில் எல்லா விடங்களிலும் எடுப்பதாகத்தான் உத்தேசம். கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்களாகப் பிரயாசை எடுத்து நான் - அபிஷியல் முறையில் கொஞ்சம் சேவை செய்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும்.

Then there are other diseases like plague, cholera and smallpox. Cholera and smallpox have been eradicated in many countries of the West. But we have not been able to do it here. We have been able to control or even in a way eradicate the fella disease, plague. In the case of plague, from 1900 to 1923, the annual mortality was 10,000. From 1924-1948, the annual mortality came down to 2,000. For the last 4 years, it is almost nil. So far as plague is concerned, we have been able to do something. But with regard to cholera and smallpox, we have not been able to make any headway. This is because of the conditions—social, economic, and other—of the people. The standard of living also contributes to the incidence of this disease. With a view to control water-borne diseases like cholera and typhoid, the Central Government have evolved the National Water-supply Scheme. They think that these diseases are more prevalent in districts where there are rivers or channels on a large scale. Only five districts, namely, South Arcot, Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Ramanathapuram, and Tirunelveli, are under this scheme. We are trying to include Madurai also. We are corresponding about this. In Madurai there is the river Vaigai. (An hon. Member : What about Coimbatore?). That is a dry area. It does not come under this. They have mentioned only five districts, and only in those five districts, we can have the facility of the schemes. As was pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition, the beneficiaries are expected to contribute only five per cent, whereas in the other rural water-supply comprehensive scheme, the beneficiaries have to contribute twenty-five per cent. Even this five per cent Harijans and Backward Classes need not give. In this connection, I may tell the reason why they have not insisted on this five per cent contribution in the case of Harijans. Considering their economic position, they are not asked to contribute this five per cent. They cannot find the money, but on that score they should not be prevented from having the benefit of the measures. That is why that provision has been made. That is a right provision. In panchayats there are cheris attached to them, and in the matter of supplying electricity for lights, the panchayats provide lights to the areas in the panchayats. If the cheris are a little remote from the village, it means that it is a little costly to take the line to the cheris. On this score, the panchayat is not willing to give the lighting facilities. Therefore, the Government contemplate giving instructions that in such cases the Government should meet the extra expense and give the cheris the facility of electric lights. Otherwise, people in the panchayat area will be having electric lights, whereas within a furlong of the panchayats, the cheris will not have the lights.

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In the case of admission, Sir, we are making some special reservation for Harijans and Backward Classes and giving scholarships. All this is being done to help those people who have been backward economically and socially. It is just to give them a helping hand. These are all temporary arrangements in order to give some facilities for Backward Classes.

5-40 p.m. Rupees 120 lakhs are provided for the water-supply schemes. We have been able to spend only Rs. 28 lakhs or Rs. 30 lakhs so far. This is because we are not able to have the required equipment, namely, pipes, etc. We do not have the required personnel. We do not have the other materials that are required. Now we have made a new arrangement by which all these bottlenecks could be got over. There was a provision that these should be bought at controlled rates. Now, we have allowed the Officers to buy them even in the open market paying more so that the work need not be stopped. So, I hope that we will be able to spend a substantial amount under this head. Further, as I have already stated, we have requested that the facility may be extended and utilised in other districts also, like Madurai, Chingleput and North Arcot.

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI: In the Coimbatore district, especially in our taluk, there is regular outbreak of cholera.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: That is why in the Coimbatore district, we have gone out of the way in giving them facilities for water-supply in Dharapuram, Udumalpet and other places which were not in the Plan as such. On the score of cholera only, we have pleaded for the provision of substantial sums of money.

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI: I want to point out that in river banks, cholera is prevalent due to contamination of water.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: When we were finding it difficult to include even one district, viz., Madurai, and now when we are trying to include two or three districts, if we are to add Salem, Coimbatore and the Nilgiris, it means extension of the facilities to the whole State which is not feasible.

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER: The scheme may be extended to places where there are rivers

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: There is the other scheme for the districts, the comprehensive rural water-supply scheme. I am sure Coimbatore can afford to pay 25 per cent easily. So far as the Local Development Works are concerned, Coimbatore stood first. We were able to spend a sum of Rs. 80 to 90 lakhs in that district because contribution was readily forthcoming in that district on a very large scale, a much larger scale than in other districts. So, Coimbatore need not look forward to this small pittance. There are other ways open to them.

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SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI: So far as major panchayats are concerned, they do not have to pay the full contribution and not even 5 per cent is given by the Government.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: That must be another scheme. There are two schemes, one relating to 5 per cent and the other relating to 25 per cent. Each should be considered separately.

With regard to the urban water-supply schemes also, I may state there are 64 municipalities and 156 major panchayats and two townships. The water-supply schemes are in operation in 38 municipalities. Under the Plan, we are given a sum of Rs. 5 crores and odd. Now, we have spent a sum of about Rs. 225 lakhs in the first two years. Considering the importance of water-supply, we have now included more schemes, that is, about 20 more schemes. That means the total expenditure will come to about Rs. 8 or 9 crores. But, what we are expecting is only Rs. 5 crores. However, we have gone ahead expecting money from the Centre or in the hope of finding other means of getting money so that we may push through all these schemes. We have done all these on account of our anxiety to give water-supply to as many places as possible.

I now come to the great killer, malaria. I think it takes the greatest toll, much greater than even tuberculosis. We have controlled it to a large extent and have now come to the stage of eradication. This year, we have started an Eradication Scheme. Next week, I think a Malaria Eradication Seminar of representatives of Asian countries will be held at Delhi where I hope they will consider various ways and means as to how best they could work the plan to see that this disease is eradicated within five or ten years.

With regard to tuberculosis, it is roughly estimated that about 100 lakhs of people in our State are susceptible to it, that is, about one-third of the population. Now, B.C.G. vaccination is going on. So far, 28 lakhs have been tested and 10 lakhs of people have been vaccinated. This campaign will continue. In addition to this, other steps should be taken to improve the nourishment of the people, environmental hygiene and other things. These should also be done hand in hand.

SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV: What about the hospitals?

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I remember the hon. Lady Member, in the course of her speech yesterday, was referring to the waiting lists and said that some of the patients in the waiting list had not got admission to the hospitals, but got admission to some other place. (Laughter). With regard to this matter, I have to point out that it means money to have more sanatoria. That is why we have under contemplation a scheme of a Convalescent Home, and it is this. If we take away some of

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the patients who could be discharged a little earlier than otherwise necessary, there would be some vacancies in the sanatoria and in such vacancies some more people could be provided admission. When this scheme comes into operation, there will be more beds available in the existing sanatoria.

Sir, one hon. Member referred to Drugs Control. There is a Committee functioning to deal with spurious drugs. The Drugs Advisory Committee has to be formed. There are two Drug Inspectors in the City and one Inspector in each district. The staff will be further strengthened, and stricter control will be exercised over these spurious drugs and other drugs that are not properly manufactured.

Dental service is also very important. Now, attention is being paid to it. Because, mouth hygiene is very important. Many people and even educated people neglect it. It is rather bad. Because, mouth is the place wherein some infection takes place and what is called pyorrhoea is as prevalent as tuberculosis and other diseases. Therefore, people should take sufficient care of their mouth and teeth. Nowadays, people do not take as much care as they ought to about their teeth. We had our own traditional and good ways of keeping the mouth clean and in a hygienic condition. We have forgotten all those things. We are adopting other methods and we use tooth paste and tooth brush. But, we are not using them as the Westerners are using them. They are very careful about keeping their brushes very clean. It may be news to many hon. Members that a European never fails to wash his mouth well before going to bed. But, many of our people—though they may wash their mouth at other times—do not do so before going to bed. Thus, we are neither adopting our old traditional way of keeping our teeth and mouth in a sound condition nor are we strictly adopting the Western methods of keeping the mouth and teeth clean. We are in between the two and neglect the mouth hygiene. If hon. Members are anxious, they may apply to my hon. Friend the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, who can supply from the Avurvedic Dispensary with which he is connected, tooth powder which is really very good. It is very cheap also. I think it is tooth powder made out of the bark of either banyan or babul tree which strengthens the gums. One gentleman actually told me that when all other treatment in the allopathic system had failed, he took to this tooth powder and used it regularly and that there was no need to pull out his teeth. Once the gums get strengthened, there will be no necessity to pull out the teeth. So, we must have some faith in some of the specifics in these systems and use them. But the trouble about Avurveda advocated by my friend opposite and Siddha advocated by my friend behind is this. Sometimes useless things are boosted as 'Sarvaroganivarani'. Some powder is sold and on the container all the diseases in the world are given for which it is stated to be a specific. But if we get proper prescriptions from a well-trained medical man in indigenous systems of medicine, it does a lot of good.

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. Minister arrange to supply through Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar the tooth powder he referred to just now?

*** THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:** Sir, the number of dental doctors is very few. To increase the number, the B.D.S. course will be strengthened. The present strength is 20. The Government are going to increase the number of seats and, with that end in view, they contemplate the construction of buildings for housing a Dental Institute. Then more dental surgeons will be available and all headquarters hospitals will be equipped with dental clinics. Two will be opened now and three will be opened in the course of the year.

With regard to Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, during the Plan period 480 centres are proposed to be opened. One hundred and ninety-two have already been opened. Ninety-six will have been opened by the end of 1958-59. And we will more or less be keeping to the target. Children and mothers will be taken care of properly because the health of the nation depends much upon the mother and child. So, Government will pay attention to that aspect also. I think this is sufficient for 'Medical' and 'Public Health'. I am thankful to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition for the suggestions he made. I will carefully go through them and whatever is possible, I shall try to do and give a better account next year.

Before passing on to the next subject, I would say a word about laundries and dhobikhanas to which reference was made during the debate. The Government have installed five steam laundries one each in the General Hospital, the Stanley Hospital, the Kasturibai Gandhi Hospital, the Women and Children Hospital and the Tiruchirappalli Headquarters Hospital.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR: Not in the Government College of Integrated Medicine.

*** THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:** The difficulty is about foreign exchange. It costs about five or six lakhs of rupees and has to be imported from foreign countries. That is the difficulty. That is why we are not able to have it in more hospitals.

As regards primary health centres, we are having 90 or 96 of them and I am glad to say that in only about ten or twelve centres there are no doctors. The position has improved and during the course of this year, all primary health centres will be staffed with doctors. There is also a scheme to build residential quarters for them.

Then I come to the other subject—Land reform.

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SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI : What about rural dispensaries?

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : They are run by local bodies. Primarily it is their concern. Government come in only in cases where they give subsidy. But in the matter of taking over certain hospitals—e.g., Andiyur and Bhavani, to which the hon. Member referred—steps are already afoot and Bhavani hospital will be taken over soon. Of course, Andiyur will come later on.

My Hon. Colleague already spoke about land reforms. But questions have been asked why ceiling should be applied only to land holdings and not to urban income. With regard to the need for reform, Sir, I may tell you that everything is changing to-day. Fashions are changing with regard to dress, food and mode of travel. We were once travelling in bullock-carts. Now we go by aeroplanes. With regard to property, we are now talking of a socialistic pattern of society. So, all these things are changing. We must also move forward in the matter of land reform just as we do in other fields. We must look at this question of land reform from two points of view. One is, we aim at a socialistic pattern of society. We are committed to it. The other is, we aim at increasing production of food. Land reforms should not affect production. We have to look at reforms from these points of view. Already this Government have completed two phases of the reform, viz., giving fixity of tenure to the cultivating tenant under the Cultivating Tenants Protection Act and fixation of fair rent. The latter we have secured by passing the Fair Rent Act. So, these two objects have been fulfilled. The third thing remaining to be done is fixation of ceiling.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Destruction of landlords.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Not exactly that.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : It is that.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : It is toning up the landowners. It was stated that my Hon. Colleague, the Finance Minister, lost in Nagpur what he gained in Hyderabad. What happened in Hyderabad was this. The Planning Commission was anxious that ceiling should be introduced and was asking the States to undertake legislation for that. In that connection, the Finance Minister of our State raised the question in Hyderabad, that before we launched on the scheme of ceiling whereby certain lands would be made available for distribution, the machinery for making proper and good use of the extra or excess land should be got ready. Without having such a machinery, if we simply introduce legislation, there will be trouble. There are some landlords who are attending to cultivation themselves. They will be deprived of the excess land which will have to be distributed to the

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landless poor who may not be able to cultivate them. This is what has happened actually in another case. With very great difficulty we broke the convention and against official recommendations, we removed large extents of land in Attur taluk in Salem district, which were reserved for certain purposes, from the Reserved List in order to distribute the land to the landless poor. The total extent was about thirty to thirty-five thousand acres. What has happened there? No cultivation is taking place because the land went into the hands of people who were only land-hungry but who did not have the wherewithal to dig wells, to buy bulls and to spend for cultivation. We now give loans for digging wells but still a large part of that area has not yet been brought under cultivation. Similarly, nothing will be done if we merely fix a ceiling and do not take steps to have the surplus land cultivated properly. We must have a machinery ready for the job and this is what the Hon. the Finance Minister said in Hyderabad. He also pointed out that experience showed that there was not greater production from small extents of land like two or three or four acres for want of proper capital. So, Sir, we must first have the machinery. Then we can implement our scheme of ceiling successfully. At Nagpur, they thought about this and felt that it was no good distributing the land to stray landless people. They suggested formation of 'co-operatives.' But some other people mentioned that the co-operative movement had been a failure. But, Sir, here we have to work the scheme in order that it may succeed. So, I submit, the Government will not straightway take away the surplus land and, before the co-operative machinery is properly organised and tested, they will not thrust this land in the head of co-operatives. The Government will have discretion to see that the land is distributed properly.

In the matter of ceiling, it was proposed that a man should not have a piece of land the yield from which would be more than Rs. 3,600 a year. That was the original idea when the ceiling was thought of. Then the Andhra State published a Bill saying that the income might be about Rs. 5,400. Now about six months ago, I remember, the Andhra Chief Minister was not sure whether the Centre would accept the amount of Rs. 5,400 because at that time the Centre was insisting on Rs. 3,600. He said at a meeting that if the Centre agreed to Rs. 5,400, he would be quite happy. But that situation has now changed. The ceiling will not be based on the income from the land. But it will be based on the extent of the land. Whatever the landlord produced from that piece of land which is marked as the ceiling, even though the income from that piece of land may be Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000, it won't be snatched away from the landlord. As originally contemplated, if they fix the ceiling on the money return, there will not be any incentive for the landholders to work hard and produce more. I am glad that the Centre and the Congress have now agreed to fix the ceiling on the extent of land and not on the income alone. In this connection, I may tell hon. Members that as far as this State is concerned, it is taking a realistic view of the reform. They are

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not going only by slogans. They know what the state of affairs here is. The land tenure business is different in different States. What is prevalent in Uttar Pradesh or Rajasthan is not prevailing here. After the abolition of the zamindaris, we have more or less the ryotwari system. Therefore, we have to take a realistic view of the situation prevailing here. Therefore, I hope the hon. Members of this House will be satisfied when I say that in fixing the ceiling on land, Government will fix a reasonable extent, an extent which will provide for the necessities of life and for the education of the landholders' children in the arts and professional colleges and all that. If we do not fix a reasonable and liberal extent, then the landholders' sons cannot get educated. That is not a thing to be desired. Therefore, I am sure a liberal ceiling will be fixed so far as this State is concerned, and when that is known, I think hon. Members will not have much grudge in respect of this ceiling business. (Sri M. Seshachariar : I hope compensation also will be liberal.) As regards compensation, reasonable compensation will be given but not the fancy compensation which we pay in some places. It won't be a fancy rate. It will be a reasonable rate. Even in the case of compensation awarded to the zamindars, it was not a pittance. So far as this State was concerned, the rate was the highest compared to the rates given by the other States. Madras gave reasonable rates of compensation to these zamindars, which amounted to about Rs. 12½ crores for the whole composite State.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI : I think the ownership of the landholder is not destroyed even when there is a ceiling put on his lands and the excess is taken away. (Hon. Members : It is depleted, taken away and cut off.)

* **THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :** I may inform the inquisitive Deputy Chairman (laughter) that I am only dealing with the broad features of the reform. I am not going into the details of it. They will be worked out in consultation with the Houses of Legislature. What I now want to impress on the hon. Members is that people need not be unnecessarily scared away by the ceiling reform as far as this State is concerned.

SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER : Since the Hon. Minister says that the ceiling will be liberal, may I know how much it will be in terms of acres?

* **THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :** It all depends upon the category of land. There are first-class wet lands, second-class wet lands, and so on. In fact, an apprehension was felt that we would fix the same ceiling with regard to Tanjore and Ramanathapuram. One hon. Member said that 20 acres in Ramanathapuram were equal to one acre in Tanjore. I think we are not such ignorant sort of people to fix a ceiling like that. We have classified the lands and divided them into five or six categories. I can just give an idea about the extent of the ceiling without stating the category

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of lands. It may go up to even a hundred acres. It all depends on the category of land. That is rather liberal when you think of less number of acres in other places. From this the hon. Members can have an inkling as to how the mind of the Madras Government is working so far as this ceiling is concerned.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: There is apprehension that the proposed legislation will have retrospective effect. Will the Hon. Minister kindly enlighten us on this?

*** THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:** I cannot understand how this principle of retrospective effect could work in the matter of fixing ceiling on land because many things may happen and if you fix a ceiling later on, we cannot interfere with things that had happened. I am told we can have a crucial date. But it cannot be put back, very far back. There will be some crucial date. A reasonable date will be fixed.

Another apprehension also I wish to clear in this connection. Now there is a controversy whether well-developed farms will be brought within the scope of the legislation. A person may be having a well-knit farm of 100 or 200 acres with big wells as in Coimbatore where people have sunk wells at a cost of Rs. 75,000 or even a lakh of rupees. The question is whether that should be split up or not. If that is split up, certainly food production will be affected. There is, however, difference of opinion about it. One view is that such fully developed farms yielding maximum production should not be disturbed and that they must be exempted from ceiling. "Well, if that view is accepted and exemption is granted to such farms, then the question of discrimination and all that will arise. It is better not to exempt them"—that is another view that is put forward. But the important thing about it is that production should not be affected especially at this juncture when we are trying our best to have more foodgrains produced. I think no drastic step will be taken which will affect production. So, this crisis of shortage of paddy and rice in a way does good to the landholders in the sense that no drastic change which will affect production will be contemplated by the Government. Because at this juncture we cannot take any risk which will jeopardise our programme for producing more. These things I have been mentioning are all by way of stray thoughts. No final decisions have been reached.

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER: What about grazing lands?

*** THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU:** Proportionately there will be more land allotted for grazing. We also contemplate granting certain exemptions for the cattle breeders. There is time enough to think about them. These things will come in the form of a Bill before the Legislature. Before that, there will be consultations made on the various aspects of the Bill. Why I said all

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these is that there need not be this scare about ceiling. Especially in this State it will all be done reasonably so as not to affect production and, at the same time, giving a socialistic turn to the whole business.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: When can the legislation be expected?

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I think the legislation may be expected before the end of this year. But the implementation may be expected later on, in course of time.

(Deputy Chairman in the Chair.)

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER: By that time would the co-operative organisations be ready to take over the work?

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Yes, we have proposed to develop them. I said that legislation only would be brought before the end of this year but that the implementation would take a little more time.

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SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI: மூன்று, நான்கு ஏக்கர் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருப்பவர்களையெல்லாம் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கத்தில் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளப் போகிறீர்களா? அல்லது 100, 200 ஏக்கர் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்களைச் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளப் போகிறீர்களா? நான்கு, ஐந்து, பத்து ஏக்கர் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருப்பவர்களைக் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கத்தில் சேர்க்கக் கூடாது என்பது என்னுடைய நோக்கம்.

*THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: நிலச் சொந்தக்காரர்களிடம் உபரியாக இருக்கும் நிலத்தை, அதாவது அவர்கள் இவ்வளவு தான் வைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம் என்ற அளவுக்கு மேலே வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கும் நிலங்களையெல்லாம் இம்மாதிரிக் கூட்டுறவு முறையில் சாகுபடி செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்படும். தனிப்பட்ட நபர்கள் தனிப்பட்ட முறையில் சாகுபடி செய்வதைவிட, கூட்டுறவு முறை மூலம் சாகுபடி செய்தால் நல்ல வகையில் அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்ய முடியும் என்ற அடிப்படையிலேதான், கூட்டுறவு முறை மூலமாகச் செய்யலாம் என்ற யோசனை.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN: I would like to know from the Hon. Minister something about cancer and the treatment given for it in the City of Madras.

*THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: ஜெனரல் ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் “கான்ஸருக்குச்” சிகிச்சை வசதி இருக்கிறது. அதோடு, அடையார் ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் “கோபால்டு பீம்” என்ற புது முறையில் சிகிச்சை செய்கிறார்கள். “கான்ஸர்” நோய் வந்த ஆரம்ப காலத்திலேயே அதைக் கண்டுபிடித்து அதற்குத் தகுந்த சிகிச்சை செய்தால், அந்த நோய் அறவே போய்விடுகிறது. அமெரிக்காவில் டல்லஸ் துறை அவர்களுக்குக் கூட “கான்ஸர்” நோய் வந்திருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கும் சிகிச்சை செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். பெரிய ஆசாமிகளுக்கும், அரசியல்காரர்களுக்கும் கூட இந்த நோய் வருகிறது. இதற்கு நல்ல சிகிச்சை முறை கண்டு பிடித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அது பூரணமாகச் சொஸ்தமாகவேண்டுமென்றால், ஆரம்ப காலத்திலேயே சிகிச்சை செய்தால், அது குணமாகிவிடும்.

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SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : அடையார் காண்ஸர் இன்ஸ்டிடியூட்டுக்கு நிதி உதவி செய்வார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : ஸ்டீக் கணக்கில் உதவி செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறோம்.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I requested the Hon. Chairman to give me an opportunity to offer a few remarks on the Budget to-day because I would be leaving the station to-morrow. But now I find it is 6-15 p.m. and I understand that the sitting of this House usually takes place between 3-30 p.m. and 6 p.m. If that is so, I do not mind losing this opportunity to speak to-day.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We are sitting till 6-30 p.m.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : I wish to offer a few remarks on the food situation. The statement made by the Hon. the Minister for Food on the food situation has prompted me to refer to it now. He said that control had been imposed on the export of paddy. Now I congratulate him on having adopted this method of solving the question of high prices and the food problem in general. Hon. Members might recollect that a few months ago, the Hon. the Minister for Food made a statement that as a short-term measure, control might be thought of to check the activities of hoarders and black marketeers. I am glad that control has now come. Better late than never.

Then, control should be based upon a proper survey of the real position from the point of view of the producer. Instead of imposing some kind of upper limit upon the price, has there been any attempt to make a scientific approach in regard to the calculation of the cost of production, the cost of fertilizers, the cost of compost manure and the cost of various other things for which an agriculturist has to pay before he produces the crop? Unless that is done, he will always be left with a dissatisfaction that some kind of an arbitrary limit has been imposed upon the value of his produce. Therefore, at least in future before any control is introduced by way of fixing the upper limit on the price of the produce, let there be a kind of scientific enquiry or survey of the cost of production per acre and the number of tons of paddy produced. Now, prices of articles are varying from time to time and from month to month. Prices of fertilizers are going up and for enjoying the irrigational facilities, the agriculturist has been called upon to pay a betterment levy and so on and so forth. Therefore, simply fixing an arbitrary limit upon the price of his produce would not be a fair way of dealing with the producer. That is one of the suggestions that I wish to make.

Then, we hear a lot about speculation which the producers and the merchants indulge in. I had a revealing talk recently with a business friend of mine and he said that if the Government wanted

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to put an end to speculation on the prices of foodgrains, they should produce much more than a simple marginal surplus. The Hon. the Minister for Food said that they were just self-sufficient in paddy and rice. That would not do. If a few merchants or producers hold back or corner their produce to the value of lakhs or crores of rupees, as is done by millionaires in Bombay, then, of course, scarcity conditions will follow. Therefore, it would not do for the Government merely to say that they are self-sufficient in foodgrains and feel complacent about it and put the blame entirely upon the merchants or producers. My business friend asked me, 'If it is permissible for the millionaires and rich people in Bombay to speculate in the stock exchange, why not merchants who happen to be engaged in this trade, do a little bit of speculation?'

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : In one case people will die and in the other case, it is not so.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : Death does not necessarily follow if a proper approach is made to the whole problem. So long as merchants or producers do a little speculation and earn a legitimate profit and do not indulge in speculation to the extent of lakhs or crores of rupees as the persons in Bombay and Calcutta are doing on cotton and jute, nothing will happen. For instance, a merchant buys 100 bags and stores them. When the price goes up by two or four annas, he releases them for sale in the market. The Government cannot condemn him outright for doing so. I am not holding any brief for the merchants. But they are not convinced that it is a heinous crime. So, any amount of sermonising and saying that they should not do it, is not going to convince them because at the back of their mind, they are thinking that they are doing a very desirable thing. Therefore, it cannot be said that they should not indulge in a little bit of speculation.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Who will set the limit?

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : After all, merchants are not millionaires and, as I said, I am not holding any brief for them.

Sir, really the food problem can be solved if food production is increased by 50 per cent. If the merchants hear that there is an excessive surplus, nobody will hoard any foodgrains because he will be losing his profit. But so long as there is a marginal surplus, these things will always happen. If a few merchants hoard 100 bags of rice, then scarcity conditions would follow because there is only a marginal surplus. On the other hand, if the surplus is 30 or 50 per cent, nobody will think of stocking rice or paddy. So, the scientific solution would be that we must aim at greater production. As I said, you should take into account the mentality on the part of the producers and traders and we must aim at the long-term solution of the food problem, that is, producing more surplus, not merely marginal surplus. That is my suggestion.

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Then, Sir, that brings me to the long-term solution, that is, increase of production. There is a lot of talk about fertilisers, compost manure, Japanese method and Chinese method and all that. There is also the modern method or mechanical process of cultivation. With all this, instead of merely talking in the Assembly and Collectors issuing some kind of instructions officially and unofficially, if there any organization of Government to take these to the agriculturists' doors? Of course, there are lakhs and lakhs of cultivators in the various villages who do not know about these. Have the Government an organisation for the purpose of going to the villagers and guiding them in the various processes? These do not percolate to the villages. You should take these methods to the villages. Unlike other professions, agriculture is a practical proposition. Unless they are actually guided on the spot by experts, all your talk is of no use. It should not be left only to the rich and educated villagers to adopt these things.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: The Japanese method of cultivation as it is done in our State today is not the sole property of the rich tenants or farmers as such. Particularly in the Block areas this has been taken up very well and it is done so well that even ordinary ryots in the villages are able to understand it and they have actually been able to reap the fruit of the Japanese method of cultivation. We definitely see that these things go to them and we have got the necessary staff to do that.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY: My point is that all the villagers should be trained in those methods.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In all the Block areas, there are Agricultural Extension Officers who go round and tell the people about the Japanese method and other methods of cultivation and help them to change the old method into a new one and that is why the yield has gone up.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY: If that is so, I am very glad to hear that. If actually the Government have an effective organisation preaching to the villagers and actually guiding them, then, of course, my remarks are superfluous. These few remarks were prompted by the Food Minister's speech to us here today.

Now, I shall deal with some other aspect of the Budget. Though it is not mentioned anywhere in the Budget speech, I think it should be brought to the notice of the Government. It is now universally acknowledged that preservation of law and order is one of the primary functions of the State and it is universally acknowledged that it is the duty of the State to protect the individual citizen against crimes and criminal acts, just as it is the duty of the Government to provide hospitals for the service of the sick and the wounded. Now, what is it that happens in our country? In our country, court-fees are levied not merely for covering charges of civil litigation but also for covering all the

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charges of establishment of criminal courts. We find that the civil litigant is mulcted to bear all the cost covering all these criminal court establishments. It is utterly unfair, unjust and opposed to all principles. The figures relating to these I have collected from the Budget under Administration of Justice, page 29 of the Budget Estimates, under Demand XXI. Under this, there is a receipt of Rs. 66,03,100 which includes court-fees realized in cash, which is Rs. 1,38,000. The bulk of the revenue is from court-fees and that is brought under a separate head. It is significant. Then, under Stamps, the court-fee levied is Rs. 1,11,82,200. This is purely paid by the civil litigants. I am leaving out non-judicial figures. Thus, court-fee under judicial stamps, at page 8 of the Detailed Estimate, is Rs. 1,11,82,200 so that the civil litigant pays both by way of court-fees and judicial stamps both together amount, by way of revenue to the Government, to Rs. 1,27,85,300. As against this receipt, what is the expenditure? The expenditure, total under the Major Head at page 140, is Rs. 1,28,17,900 which includes the Presidency Magistrates and their establishment also. They are criminal authorities. For Presidency Magistrates' Courts, the expenditure is Rs. 3,88,700—they are purely criminal courts—and in the mufassal it is Rs. 37,57,600 together they make Rs. 41,46,300. Therefore, the net gain to the general exchequer out of court-fees from civil litigants is Rs. 49,67,200. Now, Sir, this, I submit, is opposed to all principles of justice.

Speaking and delivering the presidential address some time ago at the Madras Lawyers' Conference, I pointed this out. Of course, then I did not have the figures. I called these figures from the Budget Statements. As I said, this is opposed to all principles of justice. In all fairness, criminal administration must be the responsibility of the State and the expenditure should be borne by the State, just as they bear the expenditure should be borne by service of the sick and the wounded. They are not called upon to pay the cost of these hospitals. It is part of the duty of the Government. So also, it is the responsibility of the Government to protect the citizens against crimes. The civil litigants should not be called upon to pay for administration of criminal justice. This I said about four or five years ago presiding over the conference of lawyers. I did not have these figures then. I am glad to find that the Law Commission has also emphasised this aspect of the matter and that they have entered a strong plea in their report that this injustice should be rectified at the earliest. I dare say that the Government of India should accept this and issue directions to the State Government, if they do not move by themselves in this matter in the meanwhile.

Recently, we had an interesting discussion in the Supreme Court about the difference between 'fee' and 'tax'. What is a fee and what is a tax? 'Fee', they said 'is something which is levied for services rendered, while tax is something different bearing no relation to services rendered'. Now, under the Court-fees Act,

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it is a tax really, masquerading as fee, so far as criminal justice is concerned. No service is rendered to the civil litigant by the States running the Presidency Magistrates' Courts, by paying the Public Prosecutors and all the rest. Therefore, it is really in the nature of a tax, though it goes under the colour of court-fee, practically for a considerable number of years. The Law Commission has also pointed this out. In more civilised countries and more up-to-date countries, this distinction is recognized and the administration of criminal justice is always looked upon as the primary function of the State and for that the civil litigants should not be charged.

I do not wish to take the time of the House. Only one more point I will permit myself on the question of sacrifice. The Hon. the Minister for Finance has made one statement in his speech. I am sorry he is not here now. I wish to make this observation about it. He has stated—

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'Resources for development must come out of the savings of the people, but when the people are poor, there is no appreciable margin in their incomes to save. And yet we must make a beginning for otherwise the lack of resources will persist. To resolve this stalemate we should induce the people to save somehow and contribute something towards building up the economy of the country. This would necessarily involve a large measure of sacrifice by the present generation.'

Sir, he recognises the appalling poverty of the people. So, he says that there is no appreciable margin in their incomes to save. But he says that a large measure of sacrifice by the present generation is called for. After all, we are in a Welfare State. The present generation suffered a lot during the British regime. They fought for the independence of the country. They went to jail and suffered privations of various kinds. Now, if the general population or people are having a fairly high standard of living, they can be called upon to make some sacrifice and make some contribution to the development of the country. But people are living upon a margin of sustenance and it has become fashionable for political friends to say, as one of the prominent politicians said, that there are people who do not have two meals a day. When such is the case, how do you expect people to make more and more sacrifices? That is a legitimate question. There are people who have not got two square meals a day and the salaried people are hit hard. Prices are soaring and there is the greatest hardship. There is not much sense, therefore, in calling upon people to make more and more sacrifices. A Frenchman is supposed to have said once, 'What has posterity done for me that I should suffer for posterity?' It is all very well to say that the present generation must suffer. But the present generation it is that has suffered enough, quite a lot during the British regime and during the ten years since the attainment of Independence. Now, are you justified in so framing your Plans as to call upon them to continue making sacrifices without any end? Of course, the Third Plan will be followed by the Fourth

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Plan and people will be called upon to make sacrifices for an indefinite period. May be our country will forge ahead and will attain a higher standard of living. The future generations may enjoy it. But I do submit that in framing Plans it is just necessary to achieve a reasonable balance between the needs of the present generation and the needs of the future generation. I am not averse to calling upon the people to make sacrifices. They should make sacrifices. Patriotism demands it and the needs of the State demand it and sacrifices should be made. But a reasonable balance should be achieved between the needs of the present generation and the needs of the future generation. A Welfare State is as much for the benefit of the present generation, I humbly submit, as for that of the future generation. I admit sacrifices must be made by the present generation but the present generation should also taste the fruits of independence and the fruits of economic development. They should not be content with making sacrifices. You are framing these Plans involving more and more expenditure, more and more foreign exchange, difficulties and economic hardships, which means, of course, more deficit financing to make up the gap and which means more and more inflationary trends in the economy of the country. As I said, the middle classes, the lower income groups and the poorer classes are not having two meals a day, which the politicians themselves are never tired of saying. Is this the class of people who must be called upon for an indefinite period of time to make more and more sacrifices because on a future date when they are all gone, the country may forge ahead? I am not against sacrifice being made by the present generation. They have made sacrifices already. I agree that they should be called upon to make sacrifices for the implementation of the future Plans.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sacrifice is called for from the people with taxable capacity.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : This should necessarily involve a large measure of sacrifice by the present generation. By people with taxable capacity whom are we having in mind? I have in mind the Bombay millionaires who are getting fat salaries and making large profits.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I am not against the fundamental principle of deficit financing.

SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : When you resort to deficit financing, everybody is affected. It is the very people that are affected by the rise in prices. They are not rich. Why are they affected? Because you introduce Rs. 800 crores or Rs. 600 crores of paper money, and inflationary trends are encouraged. That is to say, there is more money circulating in the country than there are commodities to buy which means increased prices. (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman : It has no relation to prices.) I venture to submit, notwithstanding the attempted correction of the Leader

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of the House, that everybody is affected by deficit financing. The poorest and the richest are affected. There is no getting away from the fact that when you put more money in circulation, the commodity is constant and production does not go up, inflationary trends are inevitable. That is the inevitable outcome of deficit financing. Therefore, I submit that those who are in charge of Planning (the Third Five-Year Plan, the Fourth Five-Year Plan and so on) must have in mind a reasonable adjustment or balance between the needs of the present generation and the needs of the future generation.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2-30 p.m. to-morrow.

The House then adjourned.

III.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 127. Notification issued with G.O. No. 1720, Local Administration, dated 27th November 1958 regarding amendment to the regulations relating to the classification, methods of recruitment, conditions of service, pay and allowances and discipline and conduct of executive officers of panchayats.

128. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4546, Revenue, dated 24th December 1958, for settlement of certain estates situated in Sattur and Srivilliputtur taluks of Ramanathapuram district including portion of Sevalpatti Estate situated in Sankaranainarkoil and Koilpatti taluks of Tirunelveli district.

* Placed on the table of the House on 9th March 1959.

